

MARCH 9, 2015

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE of Currently for winter term. The newsletter will resume weekly publication March 30, with a deadline at noon Tuesday, March 24.

Karen Marrongelle named CLAS dean

Karen Marrongelle has been named permanent dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences after serving in the position on an interim basis since last summer. Marrongelle has been a faculty member in the Fariborz Maseeh Department of Mathematics and Statistics at PSU since 2001, and served as a top administrator for the Oregon University System from 2011 to 2014. [READ MORE](#)

Strategic planning moves forward

Work continues in earnest on Portland State 20/20, the new strategic plan aimed at guiding the University into the next decade. About 100 faculty, staff and students are working as part of eight "topic teams" to explore what kind of initiatives PSU should undertake in the coming years. The teams are tackling some of the University's biggest issues, from how the faculty should be structured and how we balance teaching and research to how we measure student success and how we ensure access and equity. Read more about the strategic plan on the [President's page](#).

Provost's Challenge project develops new orientation advising tools

New tools are now available to help advisers better assist students during orientations, with the hope of decreasing the time it takes freshman and transfer students to get their degrees. "[Tools for Improving Orientation Advising](#)" is one of [five recently completed Provost's Challenge projects](#). There are a total of 24 faculty and staff-initiated projects enhancing educational delivery through technology. The Orientation Advising project includes a one-page student academic "snapshot" and prerequisite math placement exams for designated majors. Martha Dyson, academic adviser for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, led the project.

Research publication highlights achievements

Cardiovascular drug research, new tools for Braille learners, and the study of play in our society are a few of the stories told in the winter *Research and Strategic Partnership's Quarterly Review*. The new issue showcases the accomplishments of faculty and staff and reveals common themes of public policy, technological innovation, strategic partnership and improving human health. It also includes lists of recent grants received, proposals submitted, articles published and doctoral degrees conferred. [Read the winter 2015 issue](#).

Learn about the Faculty Support Desk

An information session on the soon-to-open [Faculty Support Desk](#) is scheduled from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, in 209M Smith Union. The desk opens March 30 and its staff will provide teaching and learning-platform support for faculty who walk-in, call or contact them through the web on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Office of Academic Innovation sponsors the Support Desk. [READ MORE](#)

Social gathering for faculty and staff

Join your colleagues for the Second Thursday Social Club at 4 p.m. March 12 in the Office of Academic Innovation, 209M Smith Union. This is the second gathering of the new socializing event organized by a group of faculty. Food is provided and a cash bar is available until 6:30 p.m.

University set to increase local food purchases

Local and sustainable food choices at Portland State will soon be on the rise, thanks to a revision to PSU's dining services contract. Under a new amendment developed by the Campus Sustainability Office and PSU's food services provider, Aramark, PSU Dining will increase total local and third-party certified food expenditures each by 5 percent annually, based on purchases made in 2014. In 2014, 39 percent of food purchases for PSU were local and 4 percent were organic. [READ MORE](#)

PSU a top Peace Corp volunteer school

The Peace Corps recently announced its 2015 rankings of the top volunteer-producing graduate schools across the country. This year, Portland State ranked No. 4, with 13 alumni currently volunteering worldwide. Since the Peace Corps was founded in 1961, its volunteers include 734 alumni from PSU. [READ MORE](#)

Free science lecture tickets available

Free tickets are available from the PSU Box Office for the upcoming Linus Pauling Memorial Lecture, "[The Way to Wellville: A Healthy Challenge to Create the Healthiest Communities](#)," featuring Esther Dyson. The lecture is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, at First Congregational Church, 1126 SW Park Ave.

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

March 11
[OAI Faculty Workshop: Inaugural Meeting: Community of Practice on Pedagogy](#)

[Faculty Support Desk Info Session](#)

[A Glimpse of Six Asian Films and a Conversation with PSU Asian Film Scholars](#)

March 12
[OIT Workshop: Google Spreadsheets, Forms, Survey](#)

[Recital Series: Student Chamber Choir](#)

[OIT Workshop: Advanced Excel](#)

[Infrastructure Coexistence and Constraint: Water Supply and Sociotechnical Transition in Mexico City](#)

[Second Thursday Social Club for Faculty & Staff](#)

[PSU Wind Symphony & Concert Band](#)

March 13
[Social Sustainability Colloquium](#)

March 17
[OIT Workshop: Intro to Google Sites](#)

[OIT Workshop: Intro to DataMaster](#)

[OIT Workshop: Exploring DataMaster Reports](#)

March 18
[OAI Faculty Workshop: Last-Minute Course Building](#)

March 19
[OAI Faculty Workshop: Last-Minute Course Building II](#)

March 20
[Intel Northwest Expo Middle School Fair](#)

March 21-22
[Softball: PSU vs. Southern Utah](#)

March 25
[Softball: PSU vs. Washington](#)

March 30
[OAI Faculty Workshop: Faculty Support Desk Grand Opening Celebration](#)

March 31
[Crafting an Effective LinkedIn Profile](#)

PEOPLE

Brian Bolton

PRESENTED

Sarah A. Bunton, Scott Burns, Tucker Childs, Jill Emery, Ramin Farahmandpur, Meiru Liu, Marilyn Moody, Swapna Mukhopadhyay, Kimberly Pendell, Elizabeth Withers, Mellie Pullman, Kaia Sand, Ken Stedman, J.J.P. Veerman, Keith Walters

PUBLISHED/EXHIBITED

Sarah A. Bunton, Sharon Carstens, Christine Chaille, Berrin Erdogan, Talya Bauer, Ann Marie Fallon, Tom Johnson, Ahsley Boal, Eric Mankowski

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Currently Events](#)
[Strategic Planning: Add Your Voice](#)
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