Outstanding retiree service awards
Fisher, Karr and Swanson recognized

APS bestowed its annual awards April 14 at the President's Annual Gathering for Faculty and Staff, held at University Place. Claudine Fisher, emerita professor of foreign languages, and Mary Karr, retired instructor of communication, each received Outstanding Retired Faculty awards. Doug Swanson received a special award recognizing his work as editor of the RAPS Sheet 2007-2010.

Mary Karr, Claudine Fisher, and Doug Swanson are the recipients of this year’s RAPS Service Awards. Photo by Larry Sawyer.

Priscilla Blumel, spouse of the late Joe Blumel, praised Claudine Fisher as an outstanding teacher and scholar in her field. Since retirement, Fisher has published numerous reviews, articles, and a book chapter. She has remained an active member of the University as Director of Canadian Studies while continuing to serve the community at large as Honorary Consul for France in Portland. In both of these positions Claudine exemplifies PSU’s role as a leader in educational endeavors of our region.

Robert Vogelsang, emeritus professor of communications, introduced Mary Karr by describing her work with him 30 years ago as a teaching and research assistant. Karr went on to teach a variety of courses in the department and after retirement taught for Extended Studies and for Marylhurst University.

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President’s Message

It hardly seems possible but the RAPS activity year, like the regular academic year, is coming to a close. When we meet on May 19 for the Ice Cream Social and program, it will mark the end of an interesting and exciting time for me as RAPS President. At our final Board meeting of the year in June I’ll put the reins in the capable hands of Joan Shireman who I’m sure will do an excellent job. As President-elect, Joan has been in charge of this year’s programs so we already have benefited from her leadership.

It takes a group of dedicated and talented people to keep an organization like RAPS up and running, and this year was no exception. I already mentioned Joan and the year’s programs but I also want to acknowledge the work of the entire Board which meets monthly and whose members always are ready with suggestions and advice to make RAPS stronger.

In particular, this year saw Dawn White take over the editor’s desk for our newsletter and do an excellent job. Our Treasurer, Robert Vogelsang, led a committee which developed the RAPS Scholarship, and we will be awarding the first one to a student for fall term. Steve and Mary Brannan have continued their valuable work on the institutional history, Mary with the Pictorial History and Steve with development of a new book on PSU’s first decade as well as a poster commemorating Vanport and work on website development.

I also want to thank Vic and Beryl Dahl for their careful and sympathetic work on the Social/Friendship Committee, Marge Terdal and the Awards Committee, and Bob Lockerby who began his first term as Board Secretary.

Each Board member plays important roles in the work of RAPS. You’ll find their names in this newsletter, and I hope you’ll take the time to congratulate and thank them when we get together this month.

--Clarence Hein

Spring programs reviewed

April saw the annual President’s event, this year an afternoon tea. It was well attended and enjoyed by everyone.

President Wim Wiewel spoke of the positive changes in Portland State University over the past few years: the University has attained favorable placing among the rankings of colleges nationwide and received recognition for its leadership in sustainability. In addition, it attracts students in greater numbers from other states and from abroad and continues to increase the number of dorms for students who wish to live on campus.

Annual ice cream social coming up

RAPS will have its annual ice cream social Thursday, May 19. Ice cream and toppings will be served at 1:00 pm in 228 Smith Memorial Union.

At 1:30, Terry Ann Rogers will speak on “Lobbying on Women’s Issues in the Middle East in Yemen, Morocco, and Lebanon.” Her most recent work has been in the development of a women’s rights initiative in India.

Prior to that she managed programs concerning judicial reform, gender equity, legal aid, public advocacy, and human rights law reform in many Middle Eastern countries. We are indebted to Beryl Dahl for arranging this program for us. It should be a fascinating afternoon.

--Joan Shireman

Krug, Bender join RAPS Board

Dave Krug is the new President-elect of RAPS and Anne Bender is the newest Member-at-Large. Robert “Vogie” Vogelsang has been re-elected Treasurer. Results of the recent election were announced by Larry Sawyer, chair of the Elections Committee, at the April 14 President’s Annual Gathering for Faculty and Staff. The new Board members assume their posts this fall. Joan Shireman, current President-elect, assumes the presidency.

Krug, professor and former associate dean in the Graduate School of Education, is a former RAPS Treasurer. Vogie, who has served as RAPS Treasurer for several years, was a professor in the Communication Department. Bender worked as a study abroad adviser in the Office of International Affairs. She replaces Dawn White, whose term as Member-at-Large is ending. White remains on the Board as editor of the RAPS Sheet.
RAPS club reports

**Book Club reads ‘The Leopard’**
The RAPS Book Club meets Tuesday, May 17 at 2:30 pm at the home of Joan Shireman, 13584 SE Snowfire Drive in Happy Valley. NOTE THE TIME CHANGE. Contact her at 503-698-9951 or ishreman@myfrontiermail.com to RSVP and for directions. We will discuss *The Leopard* by Italian author Giuseppe di Lampedusa. The book is described on the back cover as follows:

> Set against the political upheavals of Italy in the 1860s, *The Leopard* is a towering achievement, one of the greatest historical novels of all time. It depicts the complexities of Don Fabrizio, a Sicilian prince of immense sensual appetites, enormous wealth, and great personal magnetism. Around this powerful figure swirls a glittering array of characters—a Bourbon king, liberals and pseudo-liberals, peasants and millionaires—all nervously anticipating, in their own particular ways, the effects of popular hero Garibaldi on their lives.

Looking ahead to June, we will read *Day After Night* by Anita Diamant.

--Mary Brannan

**RAPS Hikers head for Silver Falls Park**
The May hike will be the Silver Falls State Park canyon trail. Silver Falls is Oregon’s largest state park and has several beautiful waterfalls. We will meet on the roof of Parking Structure 1 (across from Neuberger Hall) at 9:00 am Friday, May 27 (yes, that’s the Friday before a three-day holiday). From Parking Structure 1 we will carpool to Silver Falls Park. A state park permit is required for each car. Bring a sack lunch.

This is the last RAPS Sheet until September. Please note our summer to fall schedule below:
- June 10 -- Ramona Falls
- July 8 -- Tom, Dick & Harry Mountain via Mirror Lake
- Aug. 12 -- Ecola State Park with potluck at the Coopers’
- Sept. 9 -- Veda Lake
- Oct. 14 -- Fort Clatsop to Sunset Beach (fort to the sea)
- Nov. 11 -- Local hike along the Willamette, route tba

All hikes are on Fridays. Hikes to the east meet to carpool at the SE corner of the Gateway Transit Center parking structure at 9:00 am, hikes to the west at the Cedar Hills Shopping center by the DMV at 9:00 am.

If you wish to participate, contact Larry Sawyer at 503-771-1616 or larry_sawyer@comcast.net. Both frequent and infrequent hikers receive email notices just prior to the hike. If you wish to be put on the list, contact Larry Sawyer.

--Larry Sawyer

**Bridge Group shuffles May 10**
The RAPS Bridge Group meets at 1:00 pm Tuesday, May 10. For further information, including the venue, call Colin Dunkeld, 503-292-0838. Please call no later than Friday, May 6.

--Colin Dunkeld

**RAPS Directory revision underway**

The updating of the RAPS Directory is underway, reports Larry Sawyer, 2010-11 membership chair, who is leading the effort. The projected publication date is late summer.

In addition to the retiree’s name, information to be published includes spouse name (if applicable), home address, phone number and email address. Members can choose to opt out on any of the categories.

To update your information, confirm that your listing in the current directory is correct, or instruct us to withhold certain information, please send an email to raps@pdx.edu or leave a voice mail message at the RAPS Office, 503-725-3447.

If we don’t hear from you, we will assume that you have opted out and publish only your name.

Information will be collected by phone or e-mail. A notice of the directory revision will also be sent to RAPS members for whom we have email addresses. If you have email but don’t receive a message from us, we either don’t have it or have an incorrect address on file.

Questions? Please contact Larry Sawyer, 503-771-1616 or larry_sawyer@comcast.net.

--Larry Sawyer

**Alumni Office offers workshop for retirement-bound Baby Boomers**

SU’s Alumni Office is offering a four-part workshop series in May and June designed for Baby Boomers contemplating retirement. Called “ReCreating the Second Half,” the series is offered in conjunction with the Institute on Aging and features discussions on developing interests in midlife, volunteerism, aging, finances, caregiving, housing, and healthcare concerns.

The workshop is held on four Saturdays: May 14 and 21 and June 4 and 11. Cost is $17 per session, $58 for all four. Preregistration is required. For more information, log on to www.pdx.edu/alumni/boomers or call 503-725-4948.

--Larry Sawyer
From Ugly Duckling to Beautiful Swan

The recent photo at right of Lincoln Hall’s Music Recital Hall in the School of Fine and Performing Arts is a far cry from what room 75 was like at the beginnings of Portland State University. Room 75 served as the Lincoln High School gymnasium until Portland State occupied the building in 1952. It became the Portland State gym from then until 1966, when the new gymnasium was erected.

By far the worst gym in all the Portland high schools, it was dubbed “The Black Hole of Calcutta” for its darkness, low ceiling, and lack of fresh air. The slight stench of old gym socks prevailed. The gym was suitable only for exercise classes and wrestling matches, although it was also used for basketball games. It’s tough playing basketball or volleyball in a one-story sweaty dark room, as you can see from the photo below right.

When the Music Department began expanding into the basement of what was then Old Main (now Lincoln Hall), I was the first to move my office (to room 30). This small room was once the men’s locker and shower room. The remodeling was minimal -- there were still pipes and valves coming out of the walls. The even smaller room next to mine became the late Bill Tuttle’s office; it had been the women’s locker and shower room.

While men students had only to walk to the east end of the basement floor to attend gym classes, the women had to go outside, cross Market Street, and jog two blocks north to SW Park and Clay Streets to attend classes in an old abandoned Jewish synagogue -- mercifully torn down after the new gymnasium was built (see page 59 of Portland State: A History in Pictures).

Today, Room 37 is the Instrumental Rehearsal room -- but at one time it was the only science laboratory on campus. After the first remodeling of Lincoln Hall, I taught many classes and conducted bands, orchestras and chamber music groups until my retirement. But I also remember being a physics lab instructor there for a short period of time when I was first hired. In the early days we had to wear many hats.

--Gordon Solie
In memoriam: Lafayette Ross Garner, 1914-2011

Emeritus Professor of English L. Ross Garner was born March 28, 1914 and died March 18, 2011 at his home in Lake Oswego. His remarkable life included varied and exemplary experiences as a successful practicing attorney, an accomplished professor of language and literature, and distinguished military service.

While attending Haverford College (1932-1936), Ross earned a BA degree and played varsity football. From 1936 to 1939 he studied law at the University of Pennsylvania and completed an LLB degree, which enabled him to pursue a successful legal practice prior to the outbreak of World War II. In 1941 he entered the United States army as a commissioned officer, initially assigned as a trial judge advocate and subsequently as a tank commander. While serving in the Pacific Theater of operations, he rose to the rank of captain.

After returning to civilian life in 1946, he undertook necessary steps to prepare for a career shift from law to language and literature. From 1946 to 1948 he pursued graduate studies at the University of Hawaii, earning a master’s degree in English literature. In 1949 he began further advanced studies in English literature at the University of Chicago, completing a PhD in 1955.

From 1947 until 1955 Professor Garner held various short term teaching appointments at the Universities of Hawaii, Illinois and Chicago. In 1955 he joined the University of Nebraska English Department and through distinguished achievements advanced to full professor rank in 1963. His extensive research and noteworthy publication activities emphasized Renaissance literature and featured seminal studies of the career and works of Henry Vaughan, a 17th century Welsh poet and physician.

In 1967 Ross took a position as a professor in the PSU English Department. Noteworthy academic service and scholarly productivity generated a high level of recognition from his colleagues. His exciting classes attracted large numbers of enthusiastic students. Through conscientious faculty governance committee service he contributed significantly to the institution’s emergence as a comprehensive university. In June 1979, Ross advanced to emeritus status but he continued to teach specialty classes until 1981.

In 1953 Ross married Ann Magaret, and they became the parents of David and Margaret. When he came to PSU in 1967, she joined the Oregon Health Sciences University as a professor in psychiatry. The Garner family resided in Lake Oswego where their children attended public schools. The family actively participated in Christ Church Episcopal Parish of Lake Oswego, with Ross serving as lay reader, Eucharistic minister, senior warden, and parish standing committee member. He was an oblate member of the Order of St. Benedict.

Ross followed a vigorous and intellectual lifestyle. Membership in the Raleigh Hills Athletic Club brought him to the tennis court well into his 80s. As an accomplished violinist and classical guitar player, he performed in amateur organizations.

In the summer of 2010 Ann Magaret Garner preceded her spouse in death, and their respective funerals were held at Christ Church. A funeral for Ross was celebrated there on March 23, 2011 with the Right Reverend Thomas Breidenthal (Ross and Ann’s son-in-law) officiating, assisted by three diocesan priests. Ross’s service began with an inspirational prelude, “Rorrim’s Run” composed by the Garners’ son, David. Inurnment took place at Christ Church. (The funeral “Burial Office” and the Oregonian newspaper obituary may be consulted in the RAPS office.)

Ross is survived by David Garner and Margaret Garner Breidenthal as well as two children from Ross’s previous marriage, Kalini Desha and Noni Garner. To them, our organization extends its heartfelt condolences. Those of us who knew and worked with Ross will always cherish his memory. The family requests that memorial donations be made to Christ Church Episcopal Parish in Lake Oswego.

"Victor C. Dahl, Emeritus Professor of History"
In memoriam: Thomas Henry Tuchscherer, 1939-2011

Thomas H. Tuchscherer, Emeritus Professor of Economics, was born in Chicago March 2, 1939 and died in Portland Jan. 31, 2011. His brothers, Richard and Donald, survive him, and at his request no service was held.

Professor Tuchscherer attended the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign from 1957 to 1963 and earned bachelor’s (1962) and master’s degrees (1963) in economics. His undergraduate training focused on marketing, journalism and advertising, which along with operational research and advanced mathematics studies prepared him for subsequent graduate work in economic history and international trade. In 1963 he began advanced economics studies at the Northwestern University and completed PhD degree requirements in 1973.

In 1966 Tom joined Portland State College at the cusp of the institution’s emergence as an urban university with substantial undergraduate and graduate programs complemented by comprehensive research components. In that venue, he soon became known as a gifted teacher who attracted large numbers of eager students. He developed a reputation as a very patient, dedicated teacher whose instruction both stimulated and enlightened his students.

Professor Tuchscherer’s intellectual inquisitiveness led him in various directions, including economic history, money and banking, and macroeconomic theory and policy. His meticulous, tireless research into the works of John Maynard Keynes led to the publication of two articles in the Journal of Post Keynesian Economics. His articles sought to correct some of the errors which Tom and the cofounders of that journal felt had arisen in the interpretation and popularization of Keynes’s General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money. Tom’s first article, “The Unnatural ‘Natural’ Rate of Unemployment” appeared in 1981, followed by a related nine-page review article in 1984.

Tom read widely in his academic discipline and enjoyed exchanging views with colleagues with various specialty interests. Likewise, his abiding intellectual inquisitiveness led him to explore other fields, including the sciences, social sciences and the arts.

He was a congenial colleague who actively participated in his department’s curricular growth and development. His service on departmental and university governance committees was invaluable. Ongoing research interests resulted in important contributions to extending knowledge in his academic discipline. Concurrently, his professional contributions aided PSU in achieving status as a comprehensive research and instructional institution.

All of us who knew and worked with Professor Tuchscherer highly esteemed his intellect and enjoyed his company. The entire institution owes him a debt of gratitude for his dedication to achieving the goals of its academic objectives.

--Victor C. Dahl, Emeritus Professor of History, with assistance from Giles H. Burgess, Emeritus Professor of Economics

RAPS Awardees . . . cont. from page 1

She was a pioneer in developing a completely online course in 1997, and has presented and published on that topic and on her work with adult learners.

Mary has also traveled twice to Cambodia as a volunteer with a dental team providing service at orphanages.

In introducing the special award for Doug Swanson, Robert Tufts, former registrar, cited examples of Doug’s writing, editing, and photography which made the newsletter a high quality production. Swanson is currently working with Steve Brannan on a new publication, Creating Portland State 1946-1955, a pictorial booklet covering the university’s early years.

The RAPS awards recognize service of faculty and staff retirees in the areas of professional and/or career achievements as well as service to the community, to the University, and to RAPS. Serving on the Awards Committee were Marge Terdal, chair, Bob Tufts, and Priscilla Blumel.

--Marge Terdal

Editor’s note: This is the last issue of the RAPS Sheet until September. Have a wonderful summer!