President’s Message

Members of RAPS may not be aware that a number of retirement associations have already been formed by institutions of higher education in the Pacific Northwest. The University of Washington is the leader of this movement, with an impressive 2500 members. Currently RAPS is trying to participate and cooperate more with other associations. Such an effort by RAPS should be beneficial to all concerned. In addition, RAPS is working on ways to cooperate with retirement associations from the other members of the Oregon University System. This effort is in the early stages. As it now stands, RAPS is the oldest RA in the state. OSU started one three years ago, while the U of O, along with SOC seem interested in forming similar organizations. In line with such efforts, a meeting of the retirement associations of the Pacific Northwest took place recently at Seaside Oregon. Robert Vogelsang and I represented PSU there. What follows is Robert’s report on the event.

Richard Brinkman

On Sunday, October 3, Richard and June Brinkman and Robert Vogelsang attended the University of Washington Fall Festival at the Ocean Shores hotel in Seaside. Representatives came from the University of British Columbia, Western Washington University, Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, the University of Idaho, Washington State University, Oregon State University, and Portland State University. Over ninety delegates were in attendance. We attended a reception on Sunday evening.

At nine o’clock on Monday morning, we had a business meeting and then prepared to caravan eleven miles north to Fort Clatsop, a recreation of the original camp where the Lewis and Clark Friendship Expedition weathered the cold wet winter for more than one hundred days. A volunteer for the National Park Service gave a lecture and musical slide show on Lewis and Clark, the development of the fort, and the daily routine there. We then visited the fort and saw how and where the members of the Corps of Discovery lived. Several volunteers there recreated the various activities of the Corps. All of these activities prepared us for Tuesday’s lecture on York, the slave who accompanied the expedition.

That lecture followed a business meeting. The lecturer was Ron Craig, a young African-American from Portland who is an authority on York. His presence at the gathering was facilitated by Darrel Milner of the PSU Black Studies Department in cooperation with Robert kontinued on p. 2
Seaside continued from p. 1

Vogelsang. York’s presence among the Corps members provoked considerable interest among Indians, who had never seen a black man and who regarded him as a “holy man.” Ron Craig is currently working on a documentary about York for the National Geographic children’s publication.

On Monday, from four to six o’clock in the afternoon, we held the Regional Retirement Associations meeting with nine schools represented. The guest chair of the meeting was Professor Emerita Lee Swedborg from Eastern Washington University at Cheney. She discussed the “Do’s and Don’t’s of Retirement and Its Responsibilities.” She urged retired faculty and staff to remain engaged with their institutions. Each school presented information about its association, with Richard Brinkman describing RAPS. Oregon State was represented by Professor Jean Peters. She received useful information for the retirement group recently formed at OSU without support from the OSU Administration. They, however, had extensive help from RAPS. They hope to host an Oregon get-together in the spring. Much of the discussion at the meeting focused on the goals that President Brinkman spelled out at the RAPS Board meeting early in September.

Robert Vogelsang

From left to right: two representatives from Washington State University, Pullman, two from Eastern Washington University, Cheney, and Robert Vogelsang and Richard Brinkman from RAPS/PSU.

BIOLSI DISCUSSES CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN INDIAN SOVEREIGNTY

Dr. Thomas Biolsi kicked off the 2004-2005 RAPS program with a talk entitled “Contemporary American Indian Sovereignty.” Dr. Biolsi is a professor in the Department of Anthropology and Director of the Native American Studies Program at Portland State. Because of a technology glitch, he made his presentation the old-fashioned way, without computer media aids. He talked without notes, displaying his thorough knowledge of current Native American culture. He engaged the audience and easily could have held their attention for another hour. The audience included not only RAPS members, but students from a class on Native Americans and their teacher, as well as community members. Fittingly, the event was held in the Nimiipuutimt Gathering Area in the Native American Student and Community Center, a beautiful facility.

Dr. Biolsi began the talk with the identification of four kinds of indigenous rights of Native Americans in the US. First, they have the right to self-determination on tribal homelands (i.e. reservations)—the basis, for example, of tribal gaming, and a claim to self-government commonly known as tribal sovereignty.

Secondly, they have rights to off-reservation resources that were part of aboriginal lands beyond reservation borders, but that are recognized by either treaties or federal or state governments (e.g., off-reservation fishing rights, access to sacred sites on federal lands).

They have rights to practice Native culture off the reservations, in, for example, cities, where the forces for assimilation are particularly strong.

Finally, they have dual citizenship—rights to vote and participate in governance simultaneously in the state/federal system, and in autonomous Native nations.

The right of self-determination on the reservations emanates from the Native American-US treaties of the 1800’s by which tribal nations were and continue
2004-2005 RAPS PROGRAM

Please mark your calendars for the following dates and times for these events.

Gary Perlstein - “Terrorism in Today’s World”

The November RAPS Program meeting is scheduled for November 16 from 1:00-3:00 in the Vanport Room, Smith Memorial Center. We are fortunate to have Gary Perlstein as our presenter who will speak on the topic of terrorism. This topic is particularly timely. Dr. Perlstein is a nationally-recognized expert on terrorism and has been featured frequently on local and national television news programs. He is a professor emeritus in the Division of Administration of Justice in the College of Urban and Public Affairs at Portland State and continues to teach courses on terrorism on a part-time basis. He also presents daily on an early morning program for a local radio station. Additionally, he has co-authored (along with Harold Vetter) “Perspectives on Terrorism.” He has also widely quoted in books written on the topic.

Winter Holiday Dinner featuring Eric Kimmel

The December Program will be a winter holiday dinner at the Multnomah Athletic Club on December 16, from 6:00-9:00. We will be entertained by Eric Kimmel, writer of children and adolescent books. Dr. Kimmel formerly taught in the School of Education before retiring in order to pursue a writing career.

Mary Gordon-Brannan

We discussed the six stages of adult development or the “six adult life tasks” as the author described them, including the idea that each successive stage is dependent on completion of the earlier stage(s) and that not everyone reaches each stage. Dr. Vaillant characterized individuals into the categories of Happy-Well and Sad-Sick, and of course, we see ourselves as fitting into the Happy-Well group. It should be noted that not everyone fits into these groups. Some people fall between these two extremes.

Vaillant listed predictors of healthy aging for persons at fifty. Surprisingly, it was not predicted by ancestral longevity, cholesterol, stress, parental characteristics, childhood temperament, vital affect or general ease in social relationships. Instead, the factors that did predict healthy aging were not being a smoker or quitting young, adaptive coping style (mature defenses, i.e., “turn lemons into lemonade”), absence of alcohol abuse, regular exercise, a healthy weight, and advanced education.

We were struck by the emphasis placed throughout the book on social interaction and support as important to successful aging, and we agreed that interpersonal relationships are important to a fulfilling life.

Vaillant also discussed four basic activities that lead to a rewarding retirement. These included creating a new social network, play, creativity, and lifelong learning. The concluding chapter discussed rules for positive aging, namely, let go and let God (one needs to learn to leave things behind and have them take care of themselves), first things first, keep it simple, carpe diem or seize the day (but one day at a time), and use the telephone and ask for help. To quote Vailant’s adaptation of St Francis of Assissi, “For with old age and with gardens we must remain brave enough to change the things we can; serene enough to accept the things we can’t; and wise enough to know the difference” All of us enjoyed the book and found that it provided helpful information. We recommend it.

continued on p. 4 under More RAPS Activities
MORE RAPS ACTIVITIES

**Book Club continued from p. 3**

Our next meeting of the RAPS Book Club will be on Tuesday, December 14 at the home of Mary Brannan at 1:30. Call Mary at 503-239-1077 for directions and to RSVP. The book has not yet been selected. Call Mary between November 13 and 18 or after November 28 for the name of the selection. We plan to read a book on the topic of terrorism as a follow-up to Gary Perlstein’s talk on the topic on November 16.

Mary Gordon-Brannan

**BRIDGE GROUP**

The November meeting of the Bridge Group will be on Tuesday November 9th at 1:30 in the afternoon at the home of Colin and Pat Dunkeld, 7610 SW Miner Way, Portland. Please phone 503 292 0838 - or e-mail colindun@easystreet.com in good time to let us know how many are coming and to ask for directions if needed.

**Free Tickets to School of Fine and Performing Arts Events**

This is a reminder to all RAPS members that most events of the four departments of the School of Fine and Performing Arts are FREE to us. Exceptions are those events that are not sponsored by the Departments of Art, Architecture, Music and Theater Arts. For the Music Department, the events for which you must pay include the Piano Series, the Guitar Series, and the Friends of Chamber Music concerts. The only Music Department event not included is the PSU Spring Opera.

To gain admission, you need merely show your RAPS card. If you cannot locate your card, simply tell the person at the box office that you are a member of RAPS and you will be given a ticket. Do not call the box office, as they will not have a ticket under your name. This has caused a minor problem in the past.

The School of Fine and Performing Arts sincerely hopes that you will be able to avail yourself of this offer and that you will attend many of the fine events offered by the four departments. For more information, you can call the FPA office at 503-725-3105.

Mary Gordon-Brannan

**Biolsi talk continued from page 2**

to be analogous to foreign governments. In essence, the Native American reservation governments are co-equal to the US government and thus not subject to federal and state laws. Tribal governments have sole control over the governance on the reservations. In the treaties, the Native Americans ceded their ancestral lands to the US but retained their ancestral domain of these lands. In return for the ceded lands, the US pledged to provide education and health care for the Native peoples living on reservations.

The right to off-reservation resources means that Native Americans are allowed to fish, hunt, and gather in ancestral lands even those not in the reservations. While the American Indians gave up the land, they did not cede the use of their ancestral land. Thus, there is a co-sovereignty between the tribal governments and state and federal governments in the ancestral homelands. Practically, these rights to use of ceded lands allow Native Americans to fish without a state license, to fish using traditional fishing methods (methods that are not allowed for non-American Indian individuals), to have access to huckleberry fields, to dig roots, etc.

In 1924, all Native Americans were given US citizenship. Thus, they have dual citizenship: US and indigenous nation citizenship. This has resulted in tremendous growth in the power of tribal governments. The tribes have become involved in partisan politics and have political influence. Generally, tribal governments and state and federal governments find it beneficial to be allies rather than adversaries. Many Native Americans have patriotic feelings about the US and feel a sense of responsibility to both nations because of their dual citizenship.

After the talk, the attendees toured the Native American Student and Community Center, which has art works and a roof garden.

Mary Gordon-Brannan

**NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER 9</td>
<td>BRIDGE CLUB</td>
<td>See details in stories above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER 16</td>
<td>PERLSTEIN TALK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gordon Solie
OUR ACTIVE RETIREES

CLAUDINE FISHER

Professor Claudine Fisher, Emerita Professor of French, continues to work in retirement at our profession. This term, she is the only one teaching senior and graduate level course in the French section of the Department of Foreign Languages this term. She is teaching two courses this term and will teach one course in the winter and two in the spring.

She teaches not just French literature but also literature in French. This term, for example, she is teaching a course in Quebec literature, including such authors as Louis Hémon, author of the classic Marie Chapdelaine, along with more recent and contemporary authors, such as Gabriel Roy, author of Bonheur d’occasion published in English as The Tin Flute. She has written the introduction to the translation of Ouregano by Paule Constant, a novel about the last days of French colonial Africa. She was asked to do this by the novel’s translator because of her previously published study of Constant.

Along with her teaching load, she has many duties connected with her position as the official Consul of France in this area. These duties are far from routine, though they do include helping French citizens resident in the area to renew their passports. She has had to intercede on behalf of French citizens in trouble with American law, such as the young man who made the mistake of speeding in front of an unmarked police car. If a French citizen dies here, she can be involved in returning the body or the ashes to that person’s homeland. She provides help and support for American citizens with questions on France, French culture and traveling in France or Francophone countries.

She also contributes significantly to PSU and the surrounding community. She is an active member of L’Alliance française, and she serves on the board of the French American school. She is responsible for the founding of the “Claudine Fisher Scholarship,” which will enable a PSU student each year to travel to France.

For her continuing contribution to Portland State and to international understanding, merci to Professor Fisher.

IN MEMORIAM

DAVID A. SMELTZER,

Emeritus Professor David A. Smeltzer, born November 21, 1929, died on October 15, 2004, after a brief illness. Family members and many friends celebrated his life and achievements at a memorial service held on October 29, 2004, at University Place.

As a teenager, Davic Smeltzer sustained a quadriplegia injury that confined him to a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Strength of character and determination, laid the foundation for a fully productive personal and professional life. In an era before word processors and the Internet, with few accommodations for handicapped persons, he earned a baccalaureate degree in political science at Wayne State University (1957) and a masters (1958) and doctoral (1964) degree at the University of Michigan.

In 1964 he joined the PSU political science department, where he specialized in American government and politics, and carried out teaching and research until shortly before his death. His exciting classes—and his legendary wit—attracted legions of students, many of whom maintained lifetime contacts. In addition to carrying full teaching loads, serving on significant faculty governance committees, and engaging in professional organizations, he headed the department for seven years. His professorial career coincided with the burdens of PSU’s emergence as a comprehensive teaching and research institution that serves the metropolitan region’s burgeoning educational needs.

Throughout the university he gained recognition as a highly productive colleague who contributed enormously to our academic mission and left an indelible mark on the institution. We all will miss Dave and are grateful for having known him. He is survived by his spouse, Linda, and stepdaughter, Holly Minutaglio, and other family members to whom we send our condolences.

An extended obituary, which appeared in the October 24, 2004, Oregonian, may be consulted in the RAPS office. Memorials may be sent to the David A. Smeltzer Memorial Endowment, c/o PSU Foundation, P.O. Box 243, Portland OR 97207-0243.

Victor C. Dahl
President Bernstine Endorses RAPS Proposal

During the last few years, the RAPS Board has been involved in discussions concerning how the organization might best pursue one of its major goals, namely, to “Assist in the development and preservation of the history of Portland State University”.

These discussions convinced board members that RAPS should assume a leadership role in promoting efforts of PSU academic units and departments to preserve and celebrate their history. A proposal to pursue this aim was developed and later gained support from a university-wide Advisory Committee composed of Steve Brannan, Professor Emeritus and Chair., Katy Barber, Assistant Professor of History, Richard Brinkman, Professor Emeritus and RAPS President, Bill Lang, Professor of History, Terry Rohe, Professor Emerita and Interim Director of the Library, Brent Schauer, Retired Staff and RAPS member, Maxine Thomas, Professor Emerita and RAPS Past President, and Linda Walton, Professor and Department Chair of History.

The Advisory Committee recently presented the proposal to President Bernstine and received his endorsement and encouragement to proceed and to develop more specific plans including funding. The RAPS proposal is presented below. The Board invites members reactions and ideas regarding the proposal.

ESTABLISHING A “CULTURE OF TRADITION” AT PSU
Fall, 2004

Importance
Establishing a “Culture of Tradition” at PSU is a goal that will strengthen PSU’s efforts to become a leading urban university, attracting students, faculty, staff, and support because of its honored history. This goal can be best achieved if our institution builds on its historical legacy (e.g. as represented in the College that would not Die) by expanding efforts to preserve and celebrate its history, and setting in motion the means to grow its traditions so they continually portray the university’s achievements. Since a systematic process and administrative policy on preserving and celebrating PSU’s history university-wide are not yet in place, it is urgent that more time, energy, and resources are devoted to achieve these aims.

Current Status of Preservation-Related Activities on Campus
A number of historical preservation projects about PSU’s history are occurring in some academic units and departments across campus. Such projects cover a wide range of historical materials, such as papers, books, photos, oral histories, video interviews, and artifacts. Some of these projects also celebrate PSU’s history through displays, exhibits, or historical art. Most are in various stages of development, with the lack of funding and personnel often major barriers to their continuation and completion. Of particular importance, such efforts are usually not coordinated with the University Archivist and are not part of any university-wide process or administrative policy.

Proposal
The Retirement Association of Portland State (RAPS) recommends that a historical preservation project be initiated to help establish a “Culture of Tradition” at PSU. RAPS is pursuing this initiative and believes its participation is important because of the long-term commitment of its retired faculty and staff to the university, and because of its organization’s wealth of institutional memory. Such efforts also enable RAPS to implement more fully one of its seven (7) founding goals: “Assist in the development and preservation of the history of Portland State University”.

Steve Brannan