



# Oregon Academy of Science *Newsletter*

Volume 72, Number 2

October 2014

## University of Portland

is pleased to host the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual OAS Meeting, February 28, 2015

The OAS Council has been working hard to create a new, exciting format for the Annual Meeting, to be held February 28, 2015, with the theme of “Sustainable Food”. We will start later in the morning, have a special “Eat Local Dinner” and will end the day with a plenary lecture on geology, terroir and wines in our region. During the day there will be paper sessions in all disciplines and areas of STEM, and in the afternoon we will have a poster session. Other new additions include: a lecture on Cascade Tsunamis, a tour of University of Portland LEED platinum and LEED gold standard engineering and science building, a nature walk focusing on native and non native campus trees, and a session on the transition from community college to university for STEM majors. Especially for undergrads, we will host a session on applying to grad school presented by current graduate students. An exciting feature this year is a “Where Science Meets Art” gallery of images submitted by you and your fellow OAS researchers.

On behalf of the Oregon Academy of Science, I invite you to University of Portland for what we are sure will, with your participation, be an exciting time! Steve Kolmes, *OAS President*

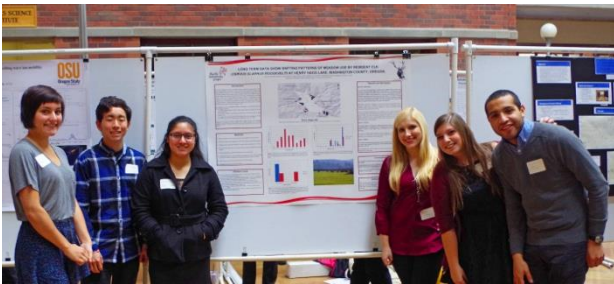
### Schedule of the 2015 OAS Meeting

- 8:30-10:00** Coffee and Rolls  
Poster set up
- 10-noon** Presentations
- 12:00-2:00** Lunch & Special Sessions
- 2:00-3:20** Presentations
- 3:20-4:20** Poster Session & Gallery Viewing
- 4:20-5:15** Pre-dinner Reception & Terroir Tasting
- 5:15-6:45** “Eat Local Dinner”  
(*separate ticket required*)
- 7:00-8:00** Public Lecture: Scott Burns “*The Mystique of Terroir: the relationship between geology, soils, climate and wine in the Willamette Valley and the Columbia Gorge*”

## OAS 2014 Meeting Recap

The 2014 Oregon Academy of Science at the University of Oregon was a wonderful success. There were 73 talks and 20 posters presented at the meeting covering 8 subject divisions and including posters and talks from the Junior Academy. Furthermore, the Keynote Panel discussion featuring UO researchers Dan Gavin, Edward Davis and Greg Retallack on climate change predictions was featured on the front page of the Eugene *Register Guard*, the second largest newspaper in the State of Oregon. The panel discussion was open to the public and with the OAS members included, the substantial number of attendees filled the lecture hall.

In addition to the presentations and panel discussion, awards were given out to several of the State's best teachers and researchers. Kerry Morton of Pine Ridge Elementary School in Bend was given an award for her K-12 teacher efforts while Angela Hoffman was given the education award for university teaching. Dr. Hoffman is noted for her work with Taxol, an anti-cancer drug derived from the Yew tree (*Taxus canadensis*). Finally, Scott Burns from Portland State University was awarded the prize of 2014 Researcher of the Year. Dr. Burns is long-term member of the Oregon Academy of Science and driving force within the Geology Division of the Academy. Our congratulations go out to all three of these Oregon science educators.



Students surrounding one of their posters at the 2014 OAS meeting at the University of Oregon

## OAS 2014 Award Recipients

### Outstanding Teacher (K-12)

Kerry Morton  
Pine Ridge Elementary School, Bend, OR

### Outstanding Oregon Scientist

Dr. Scott Burns, Portland State University



OAS President Samantha Hopkins with Scott Burns

### Outstanding Educator in Higher Education

Dr. Angela Hoffman  
University of Portland



OAS President Samantha Hopkins (left) with Angela Hoffman (right)



Dr. Angela Hoffman & her yew planation at UP

## **Seeking Nominations! 2015 OAS Awards**

The Academy seeks nominations for the following awards. Nominations may be made by any member of the Academy. Award presentations will be made at the annual meeting. **The deadline for nominations is February 2, 2015.**

### **2015 Outstanding Scientist Award**

Nominees should have made significant contributions to basic or applied research in the natural, physical, or social sciences. Nominees must have been Oregon residents during the time that they made their distinguished contributions. The letter of nomination should include a brief discussion of the nominee's accomplishments, along with supporting letters and documents.

### **2015 Outstanding Educator in Science and Mathematics, Higher Education**

Nominees for this award should have a demonstrated record of outstanding teaching in any of the subject areas encompassed by the Academy. Letters of nomination should clearly describe the unique contributions made by the candidate to teaching excellence in higher education science and/or mathematics classrooms.

### **2015 Outstanding Teacher in Science and Mathematics, K-12 Education**

This award is to recognize outstanding teaching in science or mathematics at the K-12 level. Nominees should have a demonstrated record of outstanding teaching in any of the subject areas encompassed by the Academy. Letters of nomination should clearly describe the unique contributions made by the nominee to teaching excellence in science or mathematics in K-12 classrooms.

Submit all letters of nomination and supporting materials to Kevin Johnson (Pacific University) [johnsonk@pacificu.edu](mailto:johnsonk@pacificu.edu)

## **A Brief History of Oregon Academy of Science**

We are the third organization named the Oregon Academy of Science. The first was formed in 1892, and held monthly meetings with talks given on topics like "the electrical transformer," "the microbic origin of disease," "the advent of man," "the development of mind," "the spectroscope," and "the nebular hypothesis." There were 115 members in 1892. For rather obscure reasons this organization, which even had some sort of museum of its own by then, was dissolved in 1910 so that a new organization with an identical name could be formed. A committee must have decided on that. The new Oregon Academy of Science appears to have held meetings for two years, and disappeared in 1914 without leaving a trace. The third and present Oregon Academy of Science was formed in 1943, the process was finalized "on the occasion of the Oregon State College's Diamond Jubilee." Apparently the impetus for the third academy was the burgeoning interest in war-time science, and an anticipated post-war industrial growth that it could help support.

This constitutes a brief abstract from F.A. Gilfillan's short history from Volume XVIII of Northwest Science, it is available: [http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/org\\_nws/NWSci%20journal%20articles/1940-1949/1944%20vol%2018/18-1/v18%20p3%20Gilfillan.PDF](http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/org_nws/NWSci%20journal%20articles/1940-1949/1944%20vol%2018/18-1/v18%20p3%20Gilfillan.PDF)

At present no plans exist to dissolve the current Oregon Academy of Science so that we can start a 4<sup>th</sup>!

Steve Kolmes, OAS President, 3rd one.

## **Meeting Registration & Abstract Submission**

To register for OAS membership and to attend the annual meeting on February 28, 2015, please visit: [www.oas.pdx.edu/join/](http://www.oas.pdx.edu/join/)

*Guidelines for Submission of an Abstract* can be found in the Join OAS section of the OAS website ([www.oas.pdx.edu/join/](http://www.oas.pdx.edu/join/)) or from the appropriate section chair. All presenters must be members of the Oregon Academy of Science. It's easy to join OAS at the time you submit your abstract. E-mail addresses for each section chair are listed on the last page. **Deadline for abstract submission is February 2, 2015.**



## Information on lodging and transportation options



Many of you know where the University of Portland is located, but for people coming to campus for the first time, or for anyone needing lodging, here is some information.

UP is a bit off by itself in North Portland, on Willamette Boulevard, but is served by two bus lines to the front gate. The number 44 bus and the number 35 bus run right up 6th street downtown, and then through the Rose Quarter transit center, before ending up at our front gate.

<http://trimet.org/pdfs/schedulemaps/044.pdf>  
<http://trimet.org/pdfs/schedulemaps/035.pdf>

One nice downtown hotel is the Portland Marriott City Center, 520 SW Broadway Portland, OR, 97205, (866-538-9334) and it is a short walk to the bus lines. A drop further to the bus but not a bad walk, Embassy Suites Portland-Downtown, 319 SW Pine St Portland, OR, 97204, (866 539 8430).

For drivers who want economy and a nice place and don't care about being right downtown, close hotels with good prices and nice rooms are Oxford Suites Portland - Jantzen Beach, 12226 N Jantzen Dr. Portland, OR, 97217, (866-582-9492) and for somewhat more in the same area the Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach 909 N Hayden Island Dr. Portland, OR, 97217, (866 539 8430)

To see how any hotel relates to mass transit, input the address at the Trimet trip planner and use University of Portland as the destination, see <http://trimet.org/index.htm>. To see where UP is by car, go to: <http://www.up.edu/admissions/default.aspx?cid=806&pid=2170>. Parking will be free on campus that day. The main lot is the first right past the main entrance to the campus.

## Oregon Academy of Science Officers and Council Members

**President:** Steve Kolmes, University of Portland, [kolmes@up.edu](mailto:kolmes@up.edu)

**President-elect:** Kevin Johnson, Pacific University, [johnsonk@pacificu.edu](mailto:johnsonk@pacificu.edu)

**Past-President:** Samantha Hopkins, University of Oregon, [shopkins@uoregon.edu](mailto:shopkins@uoregon.edu)

**Secretary:** Jeff Duerr, George Fox University [ждуerr@georgefox.edu](mailto:ждуerr@georgefox.edu)

**Treasurer:** Elizabeth Atkinson, Linfield College [eatkins@linfield.edu](mailto:eatkins@linfield.edu)

**Archivist:** Frederick Hirsch

**Proceedings Editor:** Dean Walton, University of Oregon, [dpwalton@uoregon.edu](mailto:dpwalton@uoregon.edu)

**Newsletter Editor:** Jennifer Butler, Willamette University, [jbutler@willamette.edu](mailto:jbutler@willamette.edu)

**Webmaster:** Dean Walton, University of Oregon, [dpwalton@uoregon.edu](mailto:dpwalton@uoregon.edu)

## OAS Sections & Chairs

### **Section News!**

Science Education section has been renamed **STEM Education** and History/Philosophy/Soc. of Science has added Environmental Ethics to become **History/Philosophy/Soc. of Science/Environmental Ethics**.

As a new section chair, Nate Peach of George Fox is working to revitalize the **Economics Section** while Christopher Lee and Christopher Hallstrom are bringing new energy as section chairs for **Math/Computer Science/Statistics**.

<b><u>Section</u></b>	<b><u>Chair</u></b>	<b><u>E-mail</u></b>
Biology	Rici Hallstrand, Concordia University	<a href="mailto:rhallstrand@cu-portland.edu">rhallstrand@cu-portland.edu</a>
Chemistry	Drew Johnson, Concordia University Ted Picciotto, Portland Community College	<a href="mailto:andjohnson@cu-portland.edu">andjohnson@cu-portland.edu</a> <a href="mailto:ted.picciotto@pcc.edu">ted.picciotto@pcc.edu</a>
Economics	Nate Peach, George Fox University	<a href="mailto:npeach@georgefox.edu">npeach@georgefox.edu</a>
Geography	Joe Poracsky, Portland State University Jackie Olson, USGS Ted Eckmann, University of Portland	<a href="mailto:poracskj@pdx.edu">poracskj@pdx.edu</a> <a href="mailto:jcolson@usgs.gov">jcolson@usgs.gov</a> <a href="mailto:eckmann@up.edu">eckmann@up.edu</a>
Geology	Scott Burns, Portland State University Jeff Myers, Western Oregon University	<a href="mailto:burnsS@pdx.edu">burnsS@pdx.edu</a> <a href="mailto:myersj@wou.edu">myersj@wou.edu</a>
Health Science	Satin Salehi, Oregon State University	<a href="mailto:salehi@ohsu.edu">salehi@ohsu.edu</a>
Hist/Phil./Soc. Science/Environmental Ethics	Randall Smith, Portland State University	<a href="mailto:smithran@pdx.edu">smithran@pdx.edu</a>
Mathematics/Computer Science	Christopher Hallstrom, University of Portland Christopher Lee, University of Portland	<a href="mailto:hallstro@up.edu">hallstro@up.edu</a> <a href="mailto:leec@up.edu">leec@up.edu</a>
Physics	Scott Prah, St. Vincent Medical Center	<a href="mailto:prahl@bme.ogi.edu">prahl@bme.ogi.edu</a>
Political Science	<b>Position Open</b>	
Psychology	David Foster, Western Oregon University	<a href="mailto:fosterd@wou.edu">fosterd@wou.edu</a>
STEM Education	Karen Bledsoe, Western Oregon University	<a href="mailto:bledsoek@wou.edu">bledsoek@wou.edu</a>
Sociology/Anthropology	Chelan Mahar, Pacific University	<a href="mailto:maharca@pacificu.edu">maharca@pacificu.edu</a>

### **Leadership Opportunity!**

The OAS is seeking energetic individuals to lead the organization in 2016-17. Please consider running for President and hosting the annual conference at your institution in 2017. Take this opportunity to showcase your organization and facilities to fellow members and conference attendees. Please contact current OAS President-elect Kevin Johnson at [johnsonk@pacificu.edu](mailto:johnsonk@pacificu.edu) if you are interested or would like more information.