Behind the scenes
with Matthew Karchesky

EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY
Dear Alumni and Friends,

First, let me thank you for the honor of serving as interim president at Eastern Oregon University. I began my career in higher education at EOU in 1983 and it is fitting that this serve as the capstone to 32 years working to help students achieve their dreams and change their lives. EOU and the eastern Oregon region is a very special place to me and I want to see it thrive and grow.

This has been a year of dramatic shifts for EOU. In the space of a few short months, we have changed institutional leadership, experienced significant restructuring in Oregon’s higher education system, adopted a new governing board, implemented difficult budget plans, seen our enrollments change and launched a search for a new president.

Eastern will experience more change in the future—that is the “new normal” in higher education. But in many ways this change is good. A new president will help infuse the university with energy and excitement, we have an excellent governing Board of Trustees (see the article in this issue) to oversee EOU’s future, our budgets are being managed and on the path to sustainability, our enrollments are projected to grow. We are on the right path.

We’ve taken on new initiatives, too, like adding men’s soccer, re-establishing a Career Center, investing in admissions and hiring a webmaster—all aimed at supporting EOU’s success.

I have also observed something else that is amazing: our students. Our academic programs produce incredible learning, research and engagement like EOU’s nationally award-winning Chemistry Club (just to name one). Our athletic teams are national contenders and recognized models of character and good sportsmanship. Music and theatre productions here are as good as anything you’ll see on Broadway. In short, our students are great. They are why we are here and the reason I am passionate about this university.

Please join us on this new course for a successful future. I plan to remain involved with EOU after my retirement, and hope you stay engaged as well.

Sincerely,

Jay Kenton
Interim President, EOU
New Career Services Center up and running

As director of EOU’s new Career Services Center, Justin Chin has his sights set on creating a pipeline connecting students with potential employers.

Chin joined EOU March 9 and began his career coaching day one meeting with students, faculty and staff, WorkSource Oregon representatives and receiving referrals. Meeting the needs of this year’s class of graduating seniors and “giving them a game plan” is his immediate focus.

“I can tell there is a lot of excitement,” he said. “This region is an untapped resource ripe for employers and we’re building a presence in the community for career services.”

Union County is the only ACT Certified Work Ready Community in Oregon, which is compelling motivation to turn EOU into a source for companies and organizations looking to hire.

“Bringing work source opportunities to campus and connecting students with state and federal programs will make the area stronger,” Chin said. “Combining resources is also important for customized recruitment, and we want to turn EOU into that talent pool.”

Located on the first floor of Inlow Hall, the center and its services are open to anyone – students and the public alike – including Career Services Online (CSO) software that helps students connect with employers and vice versa.

Prior to accepting the position at EOU, Chin was a student success specialist and career coach for the Certification Acceleration to Support Employment grant program at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany.

The Career Services Center hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information visit www.eou.edu/career.

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EOU is among top schools serving military students

Veteran and active duty military students seeking an education from EOU will find many resources available, including credit for service, scholarships and benefits for spouses and dependents. EOU also participates in the Post-9/11 GI Bill Yellow Ribbon Program, which means non-resident veterans may be eligible for tuition assistance.

Because of these and other support services, EOU is among the 2015 Military Friendly® Schools compiled by Victory Media and is also named a “Top College and University” in the 2015 guide published by Military Advanced Education (MAE).

The Military Friendly® Schools designation is awarded to the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students, and to dedicate resources to ensure their success in the classroom and after graduation.

Similarly, MAE’s guide measures best practices in military and veteran education. From community colleges to state universities, online universities and nationally known centers of higher learning, it provides students with information about institutions like EOU that go out of their way to give back to men and women in uniform.

“We are so excited to once again be designated as military friendly. As eastern Oregon’s university of access and opportunity, it is only fitting that we continue to make EOU accessible to those who have given so much to our nation,” said Xavier Romano, vice president for Student Services.

“Our service members are able to pursue their degrees on campus, online and at our regional centers. And like our armed forces, ‘versatility’ is the key to our collective success,” Romano added. “What these men and women bring to the classroom in regard to life experiences and skill sets is simply exceptional and a value to our faculty, staff and their student colleagues.”

For more information about EOU’s commitment to attracting and supporting military students, visit www.eou.edu/veterans.

Online programs rank first for affordability

From correspondence courses to streaming video, EOU has been a leader in providing access to quality education beyond the borders of a physical campus since 1979.

Today, the university holds the No. 1 position as the most affordable online college in Oregon as researched by Affordable Colleges Online, a web resource for students and families that assigns rankings to public and private non-profit schools in all 50 U.S. states.

EOU’s online bachelor’s degree in business administration is also receiving high marks from independent reviews conducted by several national consumer groups. The university is ranked first overall and distinguished as a recipient of the “Best Online Bachelor’s in Business: Students Before Profits Award” in the new list released by Nonprofitcollegesonline.com.

EOU’s program is also regarded as a “Best Buy” for students seeking a high-quality, low-cost online business degree by GetEducated.com, which ranks EOU No. 16 on its list of 47 most affordable online degrees in this field.

Other recent designations include the Affordable Online Colleges Editor’s Choice and Affordable Schools Top 10 Most Affordable Online Business Degree Programs. For more information on these and other rankings visit www.eou.edu/cobe/business/recognition.
Finding "beervana" in eastern Oregon

Story by Jeff Dense | Professor of Political Science & Craft Beer Studies

Long revered in the craft beer community, eastern Oregon is home to some of the country’s most successful brewery operations. Enterprise’s Terminal Gravity, Pendleton’s Prodigal Son and Baker City’s award-winning Barley Brown’s have all acquired a sizeable reputation for tasty brews and as destinations for traveling beer enthusiasts.

Given their success, a burgeoning craft beer scene has taken hold here. The 1188 Brewing Company in John Day and Dragon’s Gate Brewery in Milton-Freewater are also making an indelible contribution to the regional beer scene. This begs the question: Why not hold a beer festival in eastern Oregon?

In 2014 I partnered with La Grande Main Street Downtown to organize the inaugural Eastern Oregon Beer Festival (EOBF). The event sold out more than a month in advance.

“We have interest from more breweries than we can accommodate, and for a second-year festival, this is a very good problem to have.”
- Jeff Dense

Inaugural festival, providing a healthy boost to our local economy.

John Foyston, longtime beer writer for The Oregonian and one of the most astute observers of the Pacific Northwest craft beer industry, wrote the following about the 2014 event: “Like everywhere else in the state, eastern Oregon’s beer scene is growing, it’s just that bit harder to reach a Beervana-like critical mass in the gorgeous, wide-open spaces out east, which is why the first EOBF was such fun – it felt like a new, growing community coming together for the first time.”

The inaugural EOBF offered the strongest line-up of craft beer to ever be poured in eastern Oregon, including beers from nine eastern Oregon breweries and 11 breweries that won medals at the Great American Beer Festival (GABF), the most prestigious beer competition in the United States.

EOBF attendees were fortunate to be the first Oregonians to enjoy beers from Comrade Brewing in Denver, arguably the hottest new brewery in Colorado, White Bluffs Brewing of Richland, Ore., winner of a GABF Gold Medal for their Red Alt Ale, along with Marble Brewing from Albuquerque, winner of the Small Brewery of the Year at the 2014 GABF.

Other award-winning breweries included Bend Brewing, 10 Barrel Brewing, also from Bend, and Breakside Brewing, Cascade Barrel House, Laurelwood and The Commons from Portland. The People’s Choice award for best beer went to eastern Oregon’s own Dragon’s Gate Brewing for their Apricot Wit.

Craft beer festivals have a significant and measurable impact on the local economy, and in a region still suffering from an economic downturn, craft beer related tourism provides a much-needed economic stimulus for eastern Oregon. In order to more accurately assess the impact of the festival on our economy, I will be conducting an analysis of the upcoming 2015 event.

As the Beer Steward for the EOBF, I will also utilize my notable industry connections to bring a number of tasty and rare beers to the festival. We have interest from more breweries than we can accommodate, and for a second-year festival, this is a very good problem to have.

Building on the success of the first EOBF, the 2015 festival will be held June 19 from 5-10 p.m. and June 20 from 12-8 p.m. at the Union County Fairgrounds in La Grande. Participants must be 21 years or older to attend. Passes go on sale April 15. For more information visit www.eobeerfest.org.
EOU took an important step toward greater local control when its new governing Board of Trustees assembled for the first time in February.

The Oregon Senate confirmed the 14 current trustees in September and December, and all either hail from eastern Oregon or have direct ties to the region. Together, they will be responsible for mapping a future course for the university beginning July 2015.

Senate Bill 270, which passed last year, is the impetus behind EOU’s shift in governance. All seven public universities in Oregon are subsequently implementing their own boards in preparation for the disassembly of the State Board of Higher Education June 30, 2015.

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- David Nelson

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“We have a lot of work to do, but the opportunities are very exciting,” said Tom Insko, an EOU trustee and alumnus from La Grande. “This is a great group of people and the university staff have done a fantastic job of bringing us up to speed and establishing priorities for the board to be successful.”

The inaugural gathering was held on campus over two days and included training and orientation on the roles and responsibilities of the board as a governing body. Jay Kenton, interim EOU president, emphasized the meeting as a historic event for the university.

“As trustees, you will fill a critical void in the leadership of the institution at an important juncture in its history and the future of this region,” Kenton said. “What a wonderful opportunity for a great group of people. Thank you for agreeing to serve on this board. I guarantee your work will be meaningful and much appreciated by those within the institution, as well as those who seek its services.”

As the meeting concluded, David Nelson, board chair, echoed Kenton’s enthusiasm and encouraged the trustees to seek unique solutions that will make the new governing structure the best it can be.

“We have an incredible opportunity, I believe, and one thing I’d like to challenge you with is to come up with some new ideas,” Nelson said. “Let’s take it as far as we possibly can.”

Preparations continued at a special meeting of the board held in April focused on the Oregon University System transition, standards of measurements for success, financial resource management and other topics. The board’s two committees, the Finance and Administration Committee and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, also convened for the first time to review their draft charters and proposed work plans for the coming year.

The next quarterly board meeting will be held in June. For more information, trustee bios and the link to view the full board meetings via Livestream, go to www.eou.edu/governance.
When Tarita Keohokalole-Look’s interest in science first sparked, she had no idea her decision to minor in chemistry in college would yield significant rewards.

The EOU sophomore is the recipient of a $12,000 research scholarship from the Oregon NASA Space Grant Consortium (OSGC). Just four other undergraduates were selected for the award this year.

EOU Chemistry Professor Anna Cavinato is guiding Keohokalole-Look’s research to identify a new DNA aptamer, or molecule, that will bind to a surface protein used as a biomarker. The isolated DNA will eventually be used to build a biosensor to identify the presence of bacterium in water that causes bacterial kidney disease in salmon.

“I’m from Hawaii, so the ocean and wildlife are very important to me,” Keohokalole-Look said. “That’s what originally drew me to the study after Professor Cavinato talked about it in class.”

The scholarship is promoting the economics major to delve deeper into her minor. Her other interests include optometry and business. OSGC’s scholarship programs are all about encouraging careers and education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, in addition to recognizing achievements in these fields.

Another EOU student, Nyki Anderson, received an $8,000 four-year institution scholarship from OSGC. She is a junior working toward a double major in math and science online while interning at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland.

Anderson is one of the few recipients of another highly competitive scholarship making the experience possible: The John Mather Nobel Scholars award. The National Space Grant Foundation, Inc. presents The John Mather Nobel Scholars to applicants who are passionate about science, space and astronomy.

“John Mather is the first and only NASA scientist to be awarded a Nobel Prize for his research that proved that the universe is expanding,” Anderson explained, “I have met Dr. Mather several times and he is truly inspirational. He is funny, humble and inquisitive.”

With her math and computer science background, Anderson is specializing in programming in the microlensing field, which is comprised of only a hundred people in the world. Gravitational microlensing is a way to detect planets around very distant stars and better understand their composition and mass.

The team plays a significant role in substantiating the millions of dollars invested by the government for the WFIRST Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope. Through this telescope, researchers can characterize the types of stars and observe lensing events – the bending of light around huge masses.

For more information about EOU’s chemistry program visit www.eou.edu/chem.

For details on the Oregon NASA Space Grant Consortium visit http://spacegrant.oregonstate.edu.
For the third time in program history, the EOU cross country team brought home a trophy from the NAIA National Championships. The men’s team finished fourth at the meet, which is the second highest men’s finish in school history behind the second place finish by the 2002 team. EOU has recorded two top five finishes at nationals since 2010. The 2014 season marked the ninth time in school history the Mountaineers have finished in the top 10 at nationals.

Damion Flores led the Mountaineers at nationals. With his second place finish, he earned a third NAIA Cross Country All-American honor. He joins Sean Nesbitt (1994, 1995 and 1996) and Karlee Coffey (2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012) as the only EOU cross country runners to earn three All-American honors.

Joining Flores in the All-American ranks this season were Lucas Updike and his twin brother, Isaac. This marks the seventh straight season at least one individual has earned All-American honors. Flores and Updike became the 32nd and 33rd All-Americans in cross country in EOU history.

Not only did the men succeed at the national meet but throughout the year. The team recorded the third fastest time (2:04:14) in school history at the Inland Empire Classic in Lewiston, Idaho on the super-fast Lewiston Orchards course. The team also recorded four of the top 15 team times in school history (3, 7, 14 and 15). Individually Flores, Updike, Hans Roelle and Nic Maszk all made changes in the EOU All-Time Top 25 list.

On the women’s side, freshman McKenzie Evans marks the return of at least one woman qualifying for the NAIA National Championships. Since 1996 there has only been two years, 2001 and 2013, that EOU has not had a woman runner competing at the national championships. Evans finished 108th on the women’s side. She started slow but gradually worked her way up the field, running a time of 19:27.90.

At the Inland Empire Classic, the women recorded the 15th fastest time in school history with a team time of 1:36:20. Evans (9th at 18:08) and Rachel Roelle (20th at 18:40) both posted marks on the EOU All-Time Top 25 list for the 5,000 meters. Hailee Hollingsworth (45th at 19:16) joined them on the All-Time Top 50 list. This brings the total of sub 20 minutes runners in school history to 68.

Back in the classroom, the Mountaineers are also earning high marks with Calvin Edward, Hans Roelle and Kailey Wilson qualifying for NAIA Scholar-Athlete recognition. A total of 125 EOU student-athletes have earned this honor.

Joining these three are seven teammates on the Cascade Conference Fall Academic Scholar list: Audrey Love, Nic Maszk, Rachel Roelle, Kody Shriver, Jodine Steemers, Gus Titus and Tyler Zyph, who were all were recognized by the conference.
Athletics adding men's soccer

Story by Travis Rae | Sports Information Director

EOU is adding men’s soccer as an athletic program, beginning fall 2015. “I am excited to announce the addition of men’s soccer as an EOU sport,” said Anji Weissenfluh, Eastern’s athletic director. “By adding soccer we will help increase enrollment, be able to recruit regional soccer stand-outs and offer an even better student experience.”

Men’s soccer will start competition during the 2015-16 academic year and compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the Cascade Collegiate Conference (CCC).

“The addition of EOU men’s soccer certainly enhances the sport at our conference level,” said Rob Cashell, CCC commissioner. “With the decision we anticipate having 10 teams beginning in 2015, when just a short time ago we were faced with only having seven schools sponsoring men’s soccer.”

The team will be the first in the history of EOU’s athletic department. “Men’s soccer is part of what will make EOU successful and sustainable for the future,” said Jay Kenton, interim EOU president. “I came here to position the university for success and I believe soccer is part of that.”

The search for a head coach and recruitment of student-athletes will begin immediately.

“We are focused on finding a high-quality coach and to find non-conference games for the upcoming season,” Weissenfluh added.

In Union County alone, more than 600 youths are involved in soccer. This number in a rural county indicates student involvement across Oregon and the tri-state area is booming with potential recruits. By adding soccer, these students will have a place to continue their education, as well as their sport.

For more Mountaineer athletic news and information go to www.eousports.com.
It’s late at night and downtown is buzzing. People in reflective vests push carts loaded with equipment, some with rolls of brightly colored tape hanging from their belt loops. Others hold cameras, wires, monitors and microphones. They drift in and out of view behind boom arms and banks of lights that reflect off hoods of police cars and emergency response vehicles. It’s not a crime scene, traffic accident or even anything unusual for EOU theatre alumnus Matthew Karchesky, one of the people working hard behind-the-scenes on the NBC television series “Grimm.”

With the city of Portland as its backdrop, the drama centers on homicide detective Nick Burkhardt, played by David Giuntoli. His inherited abilities as a Grimm enable him to see mythical creatures called Wesen and solve the mysteries of their involvement with bizarre crimes. The classic Grimm brothers’ fairy tales are the original inspiration for the show created by Stephen Carpenter, David Greenwalt and Jim Kouf.

Karchesky is a member of the crew’s transportation team, which means he makes sure everything is exactly where it needs to be during setup, filming and teardown.

“We schlep all the equipment around, basically anything that has wheels that can move on location or on set, from 48-foot tractor trailers for grip, electric and wardrobe, to cameras and cars,” he said.

His experience as an independent film producer sometimes augments his regular role, like when he got behind the wheel of a taxi for a recent episode.

“It was a steady-cam shot that required perfect timing, which we eventually captured,” he said. “If you knew exactly when and where to look, you might be able to see me driving the cab.”

As one of the first people to arrive, Karchesky is also among the last to leave depending where a scene is staged. An average day involves 13 hours of filming and it takes about eight days to film one 46-minute episode. And because the script is constantly changing, so is the crew’s schedule.

“Monday usually starts with a 6 or 7 a.m. crew call and then we start to move into night shoots toward the end of the week. It is not uncommon to have a 3 or 4 p.m. crew call on a Thursday or Friday for exterior night scenes,” he explained. “These late night Fridays which lead us into the early hours of Saturday morning have become unaffectionately known as ‘Fraturdays.’

The Victorian façade of the residence of Det. Burkhardt and his fiancé Juliette Silverton, played by Bitsie Tulloch, is just two blocks away from Karchesky’s own home.
“It’s great when we’re filming there because I can walk to work,” he said. Other locales often include the city parks, outlying farmland and downtown restaurants and shops. Interior scenes of the detective’s house, the police station and other inside settings are filmed between three different sound stages.

“As the crow flies, everything we need is available within 30 miles of Portland,” he said. Though not a regular viewer himself – he’s usually at work when the show airs – Karchesky said his mother, stepfather and nephews are all big fans. He has been working on the series since the pilot aired in 2011. With the conclusion of each season he tells himself he won’t sign on for another, but now the show has been renewed for a fifth season and he will be, too.

Karchesky figures he clocks as many hours during nine months as most people do in two years, but the team as a whole makes pulling a 70-hour workweek more feasible.

“There is a real film family in Portland,” he said. “Everyone knows everyone and the cast and crew of ‘Grimm’ are fantastic. I’m extremely lucky to work with actors who are willing to step out and meet fans. I have a lot of respect for those who take fame with grace.”

Somehow in his crazy schedule Karchesky manages to find time to pursue his true passion for producing, and in 2012 he took three months off from “Grimm” to produce his first feature film, an independent comedy called “The A-List” that will be released soon.

“NBC was extremely supportive,” he said. “I left work on a Friday and jumped right back into it on a Monday.”

The opportunity unfolded after striking up a conversation with writer D.J. Halferty over coffee and mimosas in a backyard. Karchesky was on a weekend trip to his friend Brett Cranford’s home in Palm Springs. Cranford is the original unit production manager for “Grimm.” Halferty told them about the script and how he had secured a financier. Karchesky’s company Alberta May Productions qualified for an Oregon film incentive, Lake Oswego High School was selected as the location and everything else fell into place fast. Will Bigham is the director and other producers are Kevin Callies, Ian Rao and Halferty.

Filming commenced the summer of 2012 with a crew of 70, and anywhere from 50 to 150 locals found jobs as extras each day. Many were Lake Oswego High School students.

“There are scenes with the school’s varsity soccer team and cheerleading squad,” Karchesky said. “It was a really fun experience to have the actual students of Lake Oswego High roaming the halls and sitting in our classrooms in order to bring our story to life. I have become a big fan of the Lake Oswego High Lakers!”

“The A-List” provided Karchesky with a welcome change of creative pace. “I’ve done a lot of darker films. This was my first comedy and I loved it!” he said.

Now he has another comedy in the works. The pilot is called “So American” and Karchesky is collaborating on it with fellow EOU theatre alumnus Chuck Peters and his wife and co-creator Angie. Material has been created for about a dozen episodes so far, in addition to the pilot.

“Technology affords us the opportunity to tell and share stories easily, and I like telling stories. Get out there and start telling yours.”

-Matthew Karchesky

Karchesky’s interest in film became serious when he was a teenager. A graduate of Pendleton High School and its thriving theatre program, his inquiry was further encouraged when he started studying acting at EOU in the mid-1990’s.

“It was an incredible, brilliant and exciting time with young people hungry for art,” he said. “We were able to do what we wanted to do. Did it make people uncomfortable? Yes, it did, because it should be about starting conversations.”

He uses EOU’s production of “Angels in America” as an example. The Pulitzer Prize-winning, two-part work by Tony Kushner is about AIDS in the 1980’s. “It’s a controversial play addressing homosexuality and religion,” he said, “and we were the first university to produce both parts.”

Karchesky studied under April Curtis, Lyle Schwarz and Mark Kuntz in the theatre program and Peter Wordelman in the music program. Curtis and Wordelman are still teaching at EOU. Schwarz is retired and Kuntz moved on to the theatre department at Western Washington University.

“Matt is one of the most talented and creative students I ever taught,” Curtis said. “He shone onstage. He was a study in contrasts and that

Feature continued on page 16.
Meet the development team

Tim Seydel – Vice President for University Advancement and Executive Director of the EOU Foundation

Tim Seydel is vice president for University Advancement at EOU, where he enjoys “management by walking (and running) around.” A 26-year veteran of higher education work at both private and public colleges, Tim has a broad base of experience in student recruitment, advancement, marketing and public affairs...or enough to be considered dangerous by his staff.
E-mail Tim at tseydel@eou.edu

Rick Paradis – Director of Development

Rick Paradis comes to EOU from Webb Institute, a small private engineering college, where he was chief development officer. Prior to entering the nonprofit world full-time in 2005, he spent 15 years as a foreign and domestic equities trader. Rick possesses a wealth of analytical strategic planning and superior relationship building skills. During his tenure at Webb, alumni annual fund participation consistently achieved 70 percent and parent participation grew to over 85 percent. He holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from Lake Forest College and attended graduate school at The American University School for International Service.
E-mail Rick at rparadis@eou.edu

Tyler Dubsky – Major Gifts Officer

Tyler Dubsky joins EOU as major gifts officer after spending the last 10 years recruiting students as a member of the admissions team. He has vast experience and looks forward to his new role of engaging alumni and friends of the university. A member of the student ambassador program from 2001-03, Tyler earned his bachelor’s degree from EOU in anthropology/sociology. He is a key addition to the development team and will focus on raising support for scholarships and capital projects.
E-mail Tyler at tdubsky@eou.edu

Jessie Bowman – Alumni Coordinator

Jessie Bowman joined EOU as the alumni coordinator in 2012 and has since immersed herself getting to know the university community and alumni base. Drawing on her background in marketing, Jessie is working to promote the Alumni Association, increase engagement, establish better communication with alumni, and plan bigger and better reunions. She recently became an EOU alumna herself in December 2014 by completing her Master’s in Business Administration.
E-mail Jessie at jabowman@eou.edu

Linda Kaiser – Development Assistant

Linda Kaiser came to EOU in early 2013 from Weber State University in Ogden, Ut., where she spent the previous nine years working in the purchasing office. While at Weber State, she completed an associate’s degree in business telecommunications.
Linda is excited about her transition from acquisitions to the “giving” side of university business, and she provides integral support for EOU’s development staff.
E-mail Linda at lkaiser@eou.edu

Alumni Association benefits

After graduation EOU alumni can still take advantage of many resources and benefits!

Save with Alumni Insurance Program & Liberty Mutual
What are you paying for insurance? Find out how much you could save with discounted rates available from the Alumni Insurance Program and Liberty Mutual! There are a variety of plans available, including auto and home, short-term medical, renewable major medical, dental, group term life and even coverage for your pet.

Alegre Travel
Making vacation plans? Alumni receive $10 off booking fees with Alegre Travel in La Grande.

EOU Pierce Library
Alumni have access to the recently renovated Pierce Library. Check out books, read in the cozy chairs, and enjoy access to the library’s database.

EOU Outdoor Program
Need some crampons for ice climbing? How about an inflatable kayak or a backpacking tent? Alumni receive a 10% discount on all rentals from our Outdoor Program.

Dell Program
Dell now has a discounted website available to EOU alumni to purchase Dell equipment such as desktop computers, laptops, monitors, tablets, etc. The website is: www.dell.com/DellU/EOU

For more information visit www.eou.edu/alumni or call 541-962-3740.
First Citizens Award honors employee’s memory

Monetary contributions that benefit EOU students through scholarships are always significant, and donations made to the First Citizens Award are particularly meaningful this year.

Jacqueline “Jackie” Leno Grant, former director of Rural and Native American Programs at EOU, passed away in April 2014 following a battle with severe acute pancreatitis. She helped establish the First Citizens Award for American Indian and Alaskan Native students and now donations are being made to the fund honoring her memory.

Jay Kenton, interim EOU president, contributed $5,000 as part of a matching gift drive the university administration and Foundation Board of Trustees participated in last fall.

“The First Citizens Award is a very special program in memory of a very special person,” Kenton said. “It is an honor for me to contribute to such a noble cause in Jackie’s memory.”

In addition to Grant’s long and dedicated career at EOU, she also led programs for the Oregon Indian Education Association and Oregon Indian Coalition on Post-Secondary Education. She was an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and played an integral part in the annual Indian Arts Festival and Powwow on campus as the advisor to Speel-Ya, the Native American Student Council.

“Jackie touched many students’ lives throughout her life and career at EOU, including mine,” said Shoshoni Walker, current coordinator of Rural and Native American Programs. “She will always continue to positively influence the lives of American Indian students through the First Citizens Award.”

The First Citizens Award encourages eligible students to enroll in and complete a four-year degree from EOU. The scholarship is renewable up to five years and has an option to increase in award amount each year the recipient maintains all eligibility requirements.

Learn more about the scholarship by contacting Walker in the Office of Rural and Native American Programs at 541-962-3588 or visit www.eou.edu/nmap.

To find out how to contribute to the fund, contact the EOU Foundation at 541-962-3740 or visit www.eou.edu/foundation/giving. Donations are tax-deductible and may be public or anonymous.

Estate planning

Gift planning

Did you know there are ways to support Eastern Oregon University that don’t affect your current lifestyle or your family’s security?

You can support EOU with gifts that don’t impact the way you live by either designating the university to receive estate assets in the future through a bequest, or by making immediate gifts of assets that are “out of sight and out of mind.”

Popular giving vehicles include:

- Wills or trusts
- Retirement plans
- Stock and appreciated assets
- Life insurance

If you would like to discuss how EOU might fit into your estate plans, feel free to contact Rick Paradis, director of development, at 541-962-3740 or via e-mail at foundation@eou.edu.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Legacy Society

The Legacy Society was formally established by the EOU Foundation to honor those who have displayed generosity and foresight by taking steps to remember Eastern Oregon University in their estate planning.

To learn more about joining the Legacy Society, contact EOU’s Development Office at 541-962-3740 or e-mail foundation@eou.edu.
ALUMNI NEWS

2014 Alumni Award recipients

During Homecoming in the fall, EOU honors alumni for their incredible achievements and dedication to the university. These are the 2014 Alumni Award recipients!

**Distinguished Alumnus – Richard Chaves**

Richard Chaves, of Baker City, graduated from Eastern in 1973 with a bachelor’s in business economics and management. He went on to found Chaves Consulting, Inc. (CCI) and now serves as its president. He has led CCI in the design and implementation of information systems solutions for state and local government agencies throughout the United States. He and his wife Kathleen have demonstrated commitment to their community by leading projects that will positively impact it for decades to come. Americans for the Arts and Business Committee for the Arts recognized CCI as one of the top 10 companies supporting the arts in America in 2012 and in 2011 the Baker County Chamber of Commerce named CCI Business of the Year. He currently sits on the EOU Foundation Board of Directors and is a member of EOU’s new governing Board of Trustees.

**Dixie Lund Service Award Winner – Mary Koza**

Mary Koza, of La Grande, was born and raised in the Grande Ronde Valley and has been an avid supporter of the community and EOU throughout her life. Her involvement includes serving as secretary of the Grande Ronde Hospital Foundation and as a member of the Head Start Grantee Board. She also sits on the Presbyterian Board of Deacons and is a 30-year member of P.E.O., currently serving as secretary. She has earned many accolades, including: Woman of the Year (1996) – Soroptimist International of La Grande; Jean McKenzie Award (1995-6); Union County Volunteer of the Year (1995); Silver Beaver Award – Boy Scouts of America (2002); and the Eagle Within Award – Boy Scouts Local Chapter (2011). EOU named her a Woman of Vision and Courage in 2012 and Distinguished Administrative Faculty in 2000. She started working at EOU in 1992 and held many positions ranging from distance education coordinator of the Individualized Study and Weekend College programs, marketing coordinator of distance education, distance degrees director, and co-director of Academic and Career Advising. She retired in 2014 after spending the last three years as the director of Liberal Studies and Assessment of Prior Experiential Learning programs.

**Honorary Alumnus – Ken Bruce**

Kenneth Dale Bruce, of La Grande, is recognized for his unwavering support of EOU for nearly 50 years. A graduate of the University of Denver, he is also a licensed Oregon journeyman electrician. After relocating to La Grande in the late 1960’s, he met his wife Vicky and they were married in the fall of 1973. Their daughter Melissa was born in 1976 and is a graduate of EOU with a bachelor’s degree in biology. Since retiring, he spends time restoring automobiles, including the former EOC physical plant van often seen in parades throughout eastern Oregon, usually chauffeuring Monty the Mountaineer mascot. He always cheers for EOU in the Tailgate Zone and often provides donuts to supporters, wearing Eastern gear with the pride of an alumnus and exemplifying the Mountaineer spirit.

**Homecoming Parade Grand Marshals – Val and G. Royes**

Valerie and George Royes, of Summerville, affectionately known as Val and G., have been supporters of EOU for many decades. Val, a 1964 graduate, is a trustee of the EOU Foundation Board and one of five family generations to attend Eastern. While they are supporters of all things EOU, their true passion lies with music and athletics, specifically women’s basketball. Val has traveled internationally with Peter Wordelman, professor of music, and the Chamber Choir, and they hold season tickets to all music and theatre events. They also hold season tickets to volleyball and men’s and women’s basketball games. The Royes’ generosity extends to the community, which they are very invested in, and their support of local schools.

For information on previous awardees visit www.eou.edu/alumni/recipients.

Nominations open for 2015 awards!

Help us honor outstanding EOU alumni and friends by nominating someone today! Award recipients will be recognized at the 2015 Alumni Honors Ceremony during Homecoming. Nominations will be accepted through May 31. To make a nomination, please visit www.eou.edu/alumni/awards.
Greetings from the EOU Alumni Association

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Greetings and best wishes on behalf of the EOU Alumni Association officers and board of directors! It has been my privilege to serve as president of the association this past year and I look forward to continuing my involvement as Eastern moves into a new era with its own governing board and a new president.

I chose to attend “EOC” because of its reputation in teacher education, for the opportunities it provided me to engage in the many facets of campus life, the excellent faculty and staff, the personal attention afforded students, and for the opportunity to grow and excel personally. It is my belief that a majority of alumni share this enjoyable experience, and that prospective students will build their future through the excellence EOU provides.

The things that we loved about Eastern are still alive and well: we have beautiful campus grounds and buildings that have been remodeled; we are proud of our faculty achievements; the curricular and co-curricular honors and successes of our students; and the role the university serves throughout the region.

Our alumni board is composed of a wonderful and diverse group of people who are passionate about and dedicated to serving EOU. But there are many ways for alumni to stay engaged with our alma mater besides serving as a board member – volunteering for projects; giving a donation that is either dedicated to a specific purpose or for annual operating support; serving on a committee or the foundation; or by attending one of the many regional events sponsored by the alumni association throughout the year. However you choose to serve, you are always welcomed and appreciated!

As changes take place in Oregon’s higher education system, alumni are even more important to the success of the university, so I encourage you to stay connected. You can have a huge impact by giving a positive recommendation or testimonial to potential students.

If you haven’t done so already, go online (www.eou.edu/alumni) and update your information. Also check out our calendar and hope fully join us in the near future at an EOU event. Go Mountaineers!!

Sincerely,

Bob McMillan, ’68
President, EOU Alumni Association

Mountaineer Tracks

The Mountaineer Tracks are compiled from information alumni send to EOU. If you’d like to share news, visit www.eou.edu/alumni and update your information. We’ll print as many submissions as space allows! We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity.

1950s

James and Shirley Mallon, ’52, both spent many years in Hood River County School District in many positions. They are currently retired and living in Hood River County.

1970s

Treva Crooks, ’74, and her husband Tom started a farming business called Wallowa Mountain Garlic in Joseph. They raise gourmet garlic and have found that people love giving good quality garlic for Christmas gifts. Tom also repairs antique clocks.

Silverio Ruiz, ’73, enjoyed his college years at EOU and met a lot of good friends. He retired from teaching in December 2013 but is still working in the field of education as a tutor at a middle school in Anchorage, Alaska.

1990s

Carol Wysocki, ’90, has published a book titled “Money Mind Choices - How to Make Good Life Decisions.” She holds a Ph.D. and CPA and CMA credentials and teaches personal finance, technology and accounting courses in the business department at Columbia Basin College in Pasco.

2000s

Norkamari (Shakira) Bandolin, ’09, was named the 2014 National Outstanding Medical Student by the National College of Emergency Room Physicians. The Washington chapter of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine also recognized her with an award for Excellence in Emergency Medicine. In 2014 she also gave a presentation at the Micronutrient Forum Global Conference held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and is currently completing a three-year residency at UC Davis School of Medicine in Sacramento.

Deborah Davey, ’06, recently became a professor at Showa Women’s University based out of Tokyo in Boston where she teaches children’s literature and English as a second language.

Elizabeth Estabrooks, ’01, is living in Alberta, Canada working as a consultant for Working Partners. Since graduating from EOU, she earned a master’s of science in social work from Columbia University in New York.

Kimberly McCabe, ’07, moved to Paris to complete a master’s degree and learned to speak French. She was then able to obtain a highly skilled Visa to work in the UK. Now she is the head of marketing for a fast-growing marketing technology/digital consultancy company in the UK and Poland.

Terry Pickering, ’13, completed his MBA through EOU’s onsite program at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham and was invited to join the EOU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi with a 3.93 GPA. Prior to entering the program, he completed his bachelor’s of science in management from Linfield College after a 30 year “break” between his junior and senior years. He currently works for the Eugene School District 4J as an IT project manager. He is married, has three children, six grandchildren and resides with his wife Peggy in Springfield. During his spare time he likes to garden, fish fly and travel around the country.
MOUNTAINEER TRACKS

Ginger Skinner, '00, has formed Skinner Law, LLC. She focuses her practice on matters involving estate planning, business and nonprofit work. She draws on a broad base of experience having most recently served as general counsel for multiple real estate and finance companies. Prior to her general counsel position, she worked as a tax attorney for a Portland law firm and her practice focused on serving clients with complex estates. Her degree from EOU is in business administration.

~Weddings & Engagements~

Sheila Butler, '08, and David Waldron were married April 6, 2013.

Jovanna Center, '00, and Dale Divish were married July 28, 2013.

Naomi Whitmarsh Hatfield, '04, and Brent Veak married March 25, 2012.

Cory Nelson, '04, and Nick Teckman were married April 2014.

Mary Sharinghouse, '12, '13 and Christopher Horn were married October 10, 2014.

~Births~

Sara (Smith) Davis, '05, and Jeffary Davis welcomed daughter Ava Nicole Davis April 28, 2014.


~Obituaries~

Billie Ames, '90, Nashville, Tenn., March 14, 2014


Phyllis Anson, '65, Portland, Ore., March 16, 2013

Maurice Barclay, '68, La Grande, Ore., Dec. 12, 2014

Mildred Van Blockland, La Grande, Ore., Apr. 4, 2013

James Bohnekamp, '43, Island City, Ore., Nov. 21, 2014

Leland Bolen, '56, La Grande, Ore., June 12, 2013

Susan Bowdle, '70, Spokane, Wash., Dec. 26, 2014

Quentin Bowman, '40, Salem, Ore., Aug. 16, 2013

Carol Boynton, Bend, Ore., Dec. 19, 2013

Andrew Brewer, '13, Ontario, Ore., Nov. 24, 2014


Betty Cech, '69, Vale, Ore., April 11, 2014

Nina Dejmal, '60, Eugene, Ore., Jan. 29, 2014

Donald Cole, '61, Baker City, Ore., Jan. 4, 2014

Dale Coles, '63, Moro, Ore., Jan. 6, 2014

Harold Courtney, '52, La Grande, Ore., June 24, 2013

Myrabelle Crowley, (retired faculty/staff) Boise, Idaho, Feb. 20, 2015

Elizabeth Dallman, '61, Madras, Ore., Jan. 19, 2015

Reta Dazey, '56, Portland, Ore., April 4, 2013


Homecoming 2015

Visit www.eou.edu/alumni or call 541-962-3740 for more information or to register for specific events!

> Mountaineer Athletic Association Scholarship Golf Scramble

> Homecoming Parade

> Alumni Honors & Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony

> Homecoming 5/10K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Fun Run sponsored by Edward Jones - Shawn K. Mangum

> Alumni Association Breakfast & Annual Meeting

> EOU Football vs. University of Montana - Western

> John J. Howard & Associates Tailgate Zone

> 5th Quarter Reception

> Choirs of the Valley Concert

The EOU Alumni Association invites all former EOU Ambassadors back to campus for special reunion activities throughout Homecoming weekend. For more information, please visit www.eou.edu/alumni or call 541-962-3004.

Go Mountaineers!
has been a key women educator. The Marjorie D. Kappa Gamma Society International for and was selected for membership in Delta Marjorie was a 50-plus-year member in and loved cruising to different locales. They traveled in many countries meeting friends from all over the U.S. and all types of dances, baseball, bridge, plus teaching first grade in Stanfield. In 1955 she returned to college and earned her BS degree. She continued to teach first grade until she and Harold retired in 1973 and began traveling in their trailer across the country. They wintered in Arizona, enjoying all types of dances, baseball, bridge, plus meeting friends from all over the U.S. and Canada. They traveled in many countries and loved cruising to different locales. Marjorie was a 50-plus-year member in the Oregon Trail Chapter of Eastern Star and was selected for membership in Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for key women educators. The Marjorie D. Hindman (Liesegang) Scholarship has been established in her memory for currently enrolled students at EOU.

Frederick E. Pratter, Ph.D., was a business consultant, information systems architect and lead instructor for Destiny Corporation in Rocky Hill, Conn., at the time of his death in June 2014. From 2002 to 2011 he was a tenured associate professor of computer science and multimedia studies in the division of science, mathematics and technology at EOU. Prior to that, he was a senior scientist and information technology director at Abt Associates in Cambridge, Mass. for 18 years. He was an active contributor and speaker at local, regional and national SAS user group conferences.

Have an idea for a story?

We invite you to contribute your news to The Mountaineer, the magazine that serves the entire EOU community and beyond, reaching alumni, donors and friends. If you or someone you know has a story idea to share for possible publication, please send details to University Advancement via e-mail to: ua@eou.edu or call 541-962-3740. Editors reserve the right to edit for space and clarity.
made him unique, complex and charismatic.”

His freshman year Karchesky wanted to direct a play – an opportunity reserved for Eastern’s upperclassmen. With fixed determination, he pitched his idea to do “The Boys Next Door” for College Community Theatre at Blue Mountain Community College. They gave him $1,400 in backing and he directed four sold out shows that summer with Curtis and his other professors in the audience.

“If you were to ask any professor I ever had at EOU what the best word is to motivate me, that word would be ‘No,”’ Karchesky recalled. “The stubbornness to push past that simple two letter answer still motivates me today.”

It was while he was a student that Karchesky also gained his first real experience working around a film crew. He was hired as the art director for “Sammyville,” which was shot in and around La Grande and directed by Union County native Christopher Hatton in 1999. This led to jobs as art director for three other films and roles as location manager, including for the 2011 movie “Restless” directed by Gus Van Sant.

Karchesky sees a bright future for film in Oregon. From independent projects like “The A-List” to big budget productions including “Grimm,” there are plenty of geographic attractions bringing production companies to the state.

His advice to students interested in pursuing a career in the industry is straightforward.

“Technology affords us the opportunity to tell and share stories easily, and I like telling stories. Get out there and start telling yours.” ■

Watch the trailer for Karchesky’s new film at www.facebook.com/TheAListMovie
When I received my acceptance letter from Eastern Oregon College in 1971, I knew that my life would be different from my Asian upbringing in Hong Kong, as I would soon experience the education and culture of America.

Eastern provided a well-organized international student program, with a dedicated caring faculty interested in the education, learning and campus life of its students. I was also fortunate to have Leen Inghels and her relatives as my host family. She was born in Belgium and lived in Africa before settling in Oregon, which broadened my exposure to both American and European cultures, especially fine European cooking.

My senior year began with excitement and challenges, as I prepared to complete my double major in biology and chemistry and apply for graduate programs. It was also the start of another profound life change: meeting my future wife, Margaret, who was studying economics at Eastern. I admit it was difficult to focus on my studies during that first quarter, as my mind kept wandering. I wanted to spend every moment with Margaret.

In 2014, Philip created the Margaret Tham and Leen Inghels International Student Scholarship with a gift of over $36,000. These scholarships will provide a maximum of $2,000 per year for up to four international students annually through 2020. Philip hopes his gift will inspire the generosity of others and result in additional scholarships for deserving students wishing to attend EOU from abroad.

Find out how you can make a difference in the lives of students! Contact the Eastern Oregon University Foundation at 541-962-3740 or e-mail foundation@eou.edu.
## 2015 Summer Events

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>Eastern Oregon Film Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19-20</td>
<td>Eastern Oregon Beer Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Boise Hawks Alumni Reunion</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Portland Timbers Alumni Reunion</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Central Oregon Beer Lecture <strong>featuring</strong> Professor Jeff Dense in Bend, Ore.</td>
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**TAILGATE ZONE**

- Sept. 19 - Montana Tech
- Sept. 26 - Rocky Mountain College
- Oct. 17 - University of Montana - Western (Homecoming)
- Nov. 7 - College of Idaho
- Nov. 14 - Southern Oregon University

Reserve your space at the Tailgate Zone!

[www.eou.edu/alumni/tailgate](http://www.eou.edu/alumni/tailgate)