6 ways
OSU ENGAGES in INNOVATIVE LEARNING

Changes in demographics and technology offer University Outreach and Engagement opportunities to creatively and effectively engage diverse communities.

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#1

Arts Engagement
Inspires Innovative Partnerships
Students learn how art can work hand-in-hand with Oregon communities

Extension Reconsidered (ExtRe), an Outreach and Engagement initiative introduced at OSU in 2014, addresses community needs via the arts, humanities, design and humanitarian engineering. By working with new and traditional partners, ExtRe explores the ways in which the OSU Extension Service can evolve to best support the people of Oregon.

In fall 2015, the Art 406 course was offered for the first time. The course—a partnership between OSU Extension and the College of Liberal Arts—teaches both arts engagement methods and studio art techniques in a single class. The course is designed as a collaborative arts experience that engages and supports OSU arts students, Tillamook High School students and the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum.

The innovative course involved mentoring partnerships between the OSU and Tillamook students and culminated in a joint art exhibit curated by all the students at the Pioneer Museum. Coastal identities experienced as residents...
Responding to a Changing World

Juntos makes higher education a family goal for hundreds of Latino families

Oregon high school graduation rates are among the lowest in the country. And on average, Latino students graduate at even lower rates. Language and cultural barriers and poverty—more than a third of Latinos 17 and younger live in poverty according to IPUMS–USA—often disrupt a focus on education.

Responding to state and local priorities to boost graduation rates, OSU Open Campus launched Juntos in 2012. The program was originally developed at North Carolina State University.

Latino youth are particularly vulnerable to dropping out of school between 9th and 10th grade. Juntos reduces this risk by providing culturally relevant programming for 8–12th grade students and their parents. Working with Open Campus coordinators, local facilitators and volunteers, families build the knowledge, skills and resources to encourage high school completion and increase access to college.

By partnering with Oregon school districts and higher education providers, and with funding from the Ford Family Foundation and private donors, Open Campus is developing an evaluation system to track success and expanding to support more rural communities.

What began with a few families in Jefferson County has grown into a successful engagement program serving more than 1,000 individuals in eight counties and 14 school districts across Oregon. To date, Juntos has impressive results: 100% high school graduation rates and 100% post-secondary access.

In September 2015, the White House recognized OSU for its efforts to provide underserved Hispanic students with educational opportunities. The Juntos program received one of the four Bright Spot in Hispanic Education awards presented to OSU.

In-3-D

Online labs meet same learning outcomes as OSU’s on-campus labs

After six months of research and development and a yearlong 3-D animation project, OSU last spring launched a series of three biology courses online that effectively puts a microscope in the hands of every distance student.

The academic breakthrough is the result of a partnership between Oregon State Ecampus—the university’s online education unit—and the departments of Integrative Biology and Botany and Plant Pathology in the College of Science.

“We had to create an alternative that gives students the foundational experience of being in a lab where they can maneuver a microscope’s settings and adjust the images just as they would in a face-to-face environment,” said Shannon Riggs, the Ecampus director of course development and training.

To create the virtual lab experience, Ecampus multimedia developers mounted a camera on top of an actual microscope and took pictures of what was on the slides. The photos are woven into 3-D animation, which allows students to adjust the lighting, zoom and manipulate the images as they would if they were in a Corvallis laboratory.

The classes, developed by Dr. Andrew Bouwma and Dr. Genevieve Weber, have reached enrollment capacity quickly each term.
The Oregon legislature’s passage of HB 2879 in June 2015, enables Oregon pharmacists to prescribe birth control starting in 2016. Prescribing is a new responsibility for pharmacists that requires a new skill set.

Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) worked closely with Oregon State University’s College of Pharmacy to develop and deliver an online, self-paced course in record time. “Comprehensive Contraceptive Education and Training for the Prescribing Pharmacist” provides the foundational knowledge and professional guidance necessary for pharmacists to take on the role of a prescriber in the therapeutic area of contraception and women’s reproductive health.

The accelerated four-week development timeline helped ensure as many Oregon pharmacists as possible were prepared for the change by January 1, 2016. Costco, Rite Aid and Safeway-Albertsons are among the corporations relying on the PACE course for timely training of their pharmacists.

The innovative online training and the partnership and collaboration between OSU, the Oregon legislature and pharmacy organizations set an effective example for other states, including California, which plans to follow this model.

PACE provides non-credit and certification courses for industry and individuals related to continuing education using e-learning and online instructional technology. For a full catalog of courses visit pace.oregonstate.edu/catalog.
Keeping Waterways Clean
One Boat at a Time

Educating boaters about proper sewage disposal takes creativity & humor

How do you talk with boaters about a subject that is emphatically avoided in polite conversation? That is the question Jenny East (pictured below), Sea Grant Extension’s new boating outreach coordinator, is attempting to answer. In an effort to keep waterways clean, she is charged with informing recreational boaters about facility locations for properly disposing of their sewage along the Oregon coast and Columbia River, and in the Portland-metro area.

Her job is finding innovative ways to engage with Oregon’s recreational boaters. The key will be trying different methods such as face-to-face interactions at boating events, walking the docks, and spending time meeting with marina managers and the businesses that provide supplies for boaters.

Conversations will be about connections to the aquatic environment and being proactive about the health of that environment.

East will work with the Oregon State Marine Board to post signs showing where recreational boaters can empty their portable toilets and holding tanks. “Talking about the proper disposal of human waste will take some humor,” East said. She’s got a good start. Oregon Sea Grant has produced two light-hearted public service announcement videos about floating restrooms and dockside stations for emptying porta-potties.

East is based out of the OSU Extension Service office in Washington County.

Innovative Partnerships

Innovative Partnerships
Continued from front

of Tillamook and the Oregon Coast emerged as themes in many of the high school students’ art pieces.

In tune with OSU’s Marine Studies Initiative, the OSU students built on a tradition of arts involvement in coastal discussions. They took part in the State of the Coast conference, which brings together communities of people that live, work or study the Oregon coast. Through their participation as artists, resulting work and subsequent inspiration, the OSU students contribute to the evolving understanding of Oregon’s coastal environment. OSU plans to offer Art 406 again in spring 2016.

“It is said that ‘no old road leads to new destinations.’ An independent spirit has long been part of the Oregon—and OSU—heritage. We believe innovations focused on engagement immediacy and interactivity lead to new ideas that improve our work and the impact we have on communities and those we serve.”

— Dr. Scott Reed, Vice Provost, University Outreach and Engagement