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Emeritus

A NEWSLETTER FOR OHSU EMERITUS FACULTY





Emeritus Faculty News is published every spring and fall. Its purpose is to keep emeritus faculty informed about growth and other changes at OHSU. Items of interest should be sent to OHSU Faculty Affairs by email at facaffairs@ohsu.edu.

Sources for the material in *Emeritus* are many, including OHSU news releases, electronic newsletters and blogs, printed material and local media reports.



NEWS BRIEFS

OHSU entered Modified Operations on March 23, 2020 to help make sure critical resources were available to respond to a surge in patients needing care. Since then, the University Transition Taskforce has used six principles based in community safety, at OHSU and beyond, to make recommendations on how and when we move forward. OHSU leaders across the organization are making difficult decisions to help our health care teams care for Oregonians and stem this surge. To help meet this need, OHSU is extending Modified Operations through Dec. 17, 2021. This date aligns with OHSU's academic term. This date may change again, depending on what we are seeing, the science and the needs of our members. The University Transition Taskforce and OHSU leadership will revisit this decision at least monthly. No in-person OHSU sponsored events (on or off campus) will be allowed until January 2022 (although this date may also change if the science shows it's safe).

A new generation of health care professionals, educators and researchers graduated from OHSU in June. A total of 1,308 degrees were awarded. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, all ceremonies were held virtually, with the all-school convocation starting online at 10 a.m. Sunday, June 6. The featured speaker was Oregon Gov. Kate Brown. "The class of 2021 has surmounted atypical and extraordinarily challenging circumstances to get to this day," said OHSU President **Danny Jacobs, M.D., M.P.H.** "Their education has coincided with the greatest health care crisis of our time, and this formative experience will have a lasting impact on their careers as researchers, educators, health care providers and

community members. I look forward to seeing OHSU's growing impact on communities all over the world through each and every one of our graduates."

- The OHSU School of Dentistry awarded 80 degrees this year.
 - The OHSU School of Medicine awarded 523 degrees and certificates.
 - The OHSU School of Nursing awarded 494 degrees and certificates.
 - The OHSU-PSU School of Public Health awarded 127 degrees and certificates.
 - The OSU/OHSU College of Pharmacy awarded 84 degrees.
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OHSU has temporarily reduced its entering class sizes in three health professions programs by between three and 11 slots, year-over-year, as one of several measures to ensure that all students have access to the clinical training required for graduation. Over the years, competition for slots at clinical training sites—from OHSU Health sites to external medical clinics and hospitals of all sizes across the state—has increased due to the number of health profession training programs in and outside the state increasing. At the same time, some sites have also cut back on the number of learners they take on. Limitations around how many providers and staff could occupy patient settings at one time and other pressures and concerns due to COVID-19 accelerated the urgency. "Making sure that we are training the necessary number of health care providers to meet the needs of Oregon and beyond,

while also ensuring that our students have access to the clinical experiences that are a cornerstone of their education is something we are constantly managing,” said OHSU Interim Provost **David Robinson, Ph.D.** “Temporarily reducing enrollment is only one part of a multi-pronged approach,” Robinson said. “We intend this as a short-term intervention as everyone is ramping back up to capacity following the pandemic. We will re-evaluate the availability of clinical sites in the spring and anticipate beginning to return to pre-pandemic learner levels in the 2022–23 academic year.” In addition to trimming incoming classes in the three programs, OHSU has launched an Office of Learner Placement and Housing to better coordinate, manage and leverage opportunities for learner placement across clinical sites and across programs and schools. Across all academic programs, OHSU will also prioritize the clinical experience needs of OHSU learners over learners visiting from other institutions; students closest to receiving their degrees, and clinical experience required for graduation versus for electives. OHSU is also exploring new rotations at as-yet untapped large clinics and partner sites and incentivizing faculty who take on learners.

The School of Medicine’s new Internal Medicine Residency Program at OHSU Health Hillsboro Medical Center has received a \$20,000 grant from the Building Trust and Equity in Internal Medicine Training Grant Program for a diversity, equity and inclusion needs assessment. The award, which was presented by the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM), the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), the ABIM Foundation, the American College of Physicians (ACP) and the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, will fund an assessment of structural racism among the local Latinx population needing chronic disease care at the center’s ambulatory clinics. “Declining trust impacts nearly every facet of society, and health care is no exception,” said **Nandita Gupta, M.D.**, assistant professor of medicine, School of Medicine, and medical director of the Cardiovascular Service Line. “We are honored to be selected as a grantee to tackle mistrust and address health care diversity, equity and inclusion in medical education and training.”

On June 26, the Oregon Legislature ended its 2021 Legislative Session, known as “sine die.” During the 2021 session, which began on Jan. 21, over 3,500 legislative bills were considered spanning issues such as racism, mental health and gun safety. The State of Oregon and the Legislative Assembly began the 2021 long legislative session facing greater than a \$1 billion budget deficit, calls for equity investments, and a significant need for wildfire and coronavirus relief. The potential impacts to OHSU, both financially and programmatically, under these circumstances were significant. Additionally, due to the pandemic, the session would be entirely virtual with limited access to legislators and the legislative process, making advocacy harder than ever before. In the 2021 legislative session, OHSU’s priorities included fully funding the Medicaid program and OHSU’s portion of the IGT, retaining current service level (CSL) funding for OHSU’s general fund education appropriation, and restoration of the proposed funding cut for Graduate Medical Education (GME) at OHSU. Each of these priorities were achieved this session. In addition to efforts to ensure continued critical funding for the institution and critical state programs for underserved Oregonians, OHSU engaged in advocacy to support and uplift policies that advance health equity, address structural racism, support coronavirus response efforts, improve public health, protect OHSU’s public structure, and promote OHSU’s mission of health care, health education, and discovery. OHSU engaged in several hundred bills in a variety of ways, by providing expert public testimony, meeting with legislators to share expert counsel, and joining stakeholder and legislative coalitions in advocacy. Some highlights include:

- Senior Vice President, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion **Derick Du Vivier, M.D.** delivered virtual testimony in support of the successful Senate Bill 398, which will create a crime of displaying a noose as an act of intimidation.
- **Karen Kovak, M.S.**, assistant professor of molecular and medical genetics, School of Medicine, and several other OHSU members successfully advocated for House Bill 2619, which will require those who practice genetic counseling in Oregon be licensed as genetic counselors through the Oregon Health Authority, Health Licensing Office.

- OHSU contributed to the passage of House Bill 2508, which will require telemedicine services to be reimbursed by public and private insurers, and expands the definition of telemedicine to be more inclusive of the variety of ways in which health care services are provided remotely.
- **Ben Hoffman, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics, School of Medicine, assisted in the passage of the landmark gun safety bill, SB 554, which will require a person who owns or possesses a firearm to secure the firearm or store it in a locked container when it is not actively under the control of the person. During his testimony to the legislature, Hoffman stated “We cannot gun-proof children. We must child-proof guns.”
- OHSU students and program leaders submitted legislative testimony in support of funding for pathway programs to improve health disparities by increasing Oregon’s health care workforce diversity.
- OHSU patients and staff testified in support of maintaining funding for critical programs serving vulnerable Oregonians, such as the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center and its essential specialized care for children and their families.

The OHSU Knight Cancer Institute has expanded its cancer research and care facilities to include a unit dedicated to serving patients participating in early-phase clinical trials. The new unit centralizes care for patients in research studies and expands capacity to allow more people to participate in early-phase clinical trials at OHSU. Clinical trials are research studies that test how well new medicines or treatments work in people. Each study answers scientific questions and tries to find better ways to prevent, diagnose or treat diseases like cancer. Early-phase trials are the first step in testing promising new medications and methods, and can offer patients early access to new and possibly better treatments. “We are proud to be able to offer our patients access to the most advanced cancer therapies available,” said **Shivaani Kummar, M.D.**, professor of medicine, School of Medicine, and co-director of the Knight Cancer Institute’s Center for Experimental Therapeutics. “With



this new dedicated space to administer clinical trial care for patients, OHSU will continue to work to expand access to innovative clinical trials for cancer patients in Oregon and beyond.”

OHSU is one of five universities nationwide to form a new National Science Foundation-funded institute to design and build intelligent systems to help people age in place. The five-year, \$20 million grant will support the creation of an AI Institute for Collaborative Assistance and Responsive Interaction for Networked Groups, or AI-Caring. The institute will develop artificial intelligence systems that work for aging adults, including those diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment, and their caregivers. Most older adults prefer to remain in their



Oregon Health & Science University is part of a new National Science Foundation-funded institute to develop artificial intelligence systems to help people live independently as they age.

own homes. But safety concerns, medication schedule and isolation can all make it difficult for them to do so. The work builds on a model OHSU established more than a decade ago through its Oregon Center for Aging and Technology, or ORCATECH. In this research, participants agree to permit the ORCATECH system to collect unique life data in their homes, using an array of sensors to assess changes in gait, sleep and overall activity. It also includes a “MedTracker” electronic pill box as well as a scale to measure weight, body fat and pulse. “Our project is focused on assisting people to age independently and in particular people who might develop cognitive impairment later in life,” said OHSU site leader **Jeffrey Kaye, M.D.**, professor of neurology, School of Medicine, and director of the OHSU Layton Aging & Alzheimer’s Disease Center. “ORCATECH has unique datasets that will allow the new institute to develop and create advanced artificial intelligence algorithms to help people age in place.”

When the outbreak of COVID-19 threatened to

overwhelm intensive care units across Oregon last spring, the launch of the Virtual Intensive Care Unit pilot, which OHSU Health accelerated as a part of the pandemic response, came at just the right time. The Office of Digital Health fully launched the VICU model on July 7, supporting up to 87 patients across OHSU Hospital and Hillsboro Medical Center. Plans are in place to bring a number of rural hospitals into the VICU model soon. The VICU model enables intensivist physicians and critical care nurses to provide round-the-clock support and services from the Center for Health & Healing Building 2. They monitor clinical data feeds, respond to system alerts, round and consult with the onsite care teams. The VICU helps bolster capacity of OHSU Health’s brick and mortar ICUs and expands our ability to provide care for severely ill patients at rural hospitals across the state. In coordination with OHSU’s Mission Control, which provides critical visibility into regional capacity management, VICU telemedicine helped increase capacity during the critical peaks of the pandemic, by serving as extensions of primary teams. Connected

through in-room AV equipment, the VICU helps bridge geographic distances and enables patients to stay in their communities. The pandemic brought increased demand for critical care staff across the country. For OHSU, the nation-wide staffing shortage meant it was difficult to hire the additional ICU-trained nurses needed to provide 24/7 services.

The OHSU School of Dentistry has received a \$3.8 million, five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health in order to recruit, train and mentor the next generation of scientists in oral health. The funding, from the NIH's National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, will support a new comprehensive dentistry research training program that will build on a decade of growth in basic, translational and clinical research conducted by the school's faculty. In the last ten years, the school has risen to 12th from 41st in NIDCR funding to U.S. dental schools. "The award of this grant reflects our strong research portfolio and our ability and potential to produce the next generation of oral health researchers," said **Hui Wu, Ph.D.**, professor of integrative biosciences, School of Dentistry, and associate dean for research and principal investigator of the grant. "We were able to compete successfully for the grant because of the science being conducted by our outstanding faculty investigators, our rising research ranking among all dental schools nationally, the outstanding OHSU research environment, and the strong support from the OHSU leadership." The grant will fund the Portland Oral Health Research Training (PORT) program, which will fill an important gap among training programs at OHSU and will strengthen cross-school, cross-institutional research, particularly in microbe-host interactions, biomaterials and tissue engineering, and clinical and translational research in TMJ and pain modulation. Wu will serve as director of the \$3.8 million PORT project. In addition to his roles in the School of Dentistry, Wu holds joint appointments in the School of Medicine departments of biomedical engineering and molecular microbiology and immunology, which includes in its structure internal and external advisory boards. Ferracane, a longtime faculty member at the SoD, has been instrumental in

recruiting several key scientists to the school and will serve as PORT co-director.

OHSU is partnering with the Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Department of Education and school districts across a wide swath of the state to provide free COVID-19 weekly screening for students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade. OHSU can process as many as 8,000 tests per day through this new initiative. "It's important for us to be here to support students in the state of Oregon," said **Donna Hansel, Ph.D., M.D.**, professor of pathology, School of Medicine. "It's important for students to be back in the classroom and to be able to do that safely. We also know that we can get ahead of any outbreaks by doing testing." As part of a broader statewide initiative led by the OHA and the ODE to stop the spread of COVID-19 in schools, OHSU will offer weekly screening testing for schools in the Portland metro area, the north coast and a broad swath of Eastern Oregon. The screening program is among several measures, including masking, that school districts across the state are taking to minimize the risk of outbreaks among students and staff.

Federal and state health authorities are making new investments in Oregon Health & Science University's research and clinical laboratory expertise to substantially enhance its ability to track COVID-19 across Oregon and Southwest Washington. As the pandemic slowly recedes with vaccinations rising across the region, OHSU scientists will continuously monitor how the novel coronavirus spreads and potentially evolves. The goal is to quickly recognize the emergence of genetic variants that may be more contagious, deadly or evade existing vaccines. "Oregon has been a leading state in tracking COVID-19 variants," said **Donna Hansel, Ph.D., M.D.**, professor of pathology in the OHSU School of Medicine. "By increasing our capacity to sequence virus genomes, we will enhance the state's ability to monitor the situation in real time – and meet OHSU's mission to promote the health and well-being of Oregonians." The new initiative will benefit from direct collaboration with state and local public health authorities, said **Brian O'Roak, Ph.D.**, associate professor of molecular and



With students now back to in-person learning, OHSU is offering free weekly COVID-19 screening for kindergarten through 12th grade students across a large swath of Oregon. The effort is part of a broader back-to-school initiative led by the Oregon Health Authority and the Oregon Department of Education. (Getty Images)

medical genetics, School of Medicine. “The numbers are still high in Oregon,” O’Roak said. “Variants of concern are very high in the state. This new initiative will allow us to bring our sequencing data to bear on the public health response, by looking at how the uptake of public health measures like unmasking and vaccination rates affect viral dynamics.” OHSU will have the capability to sequence as many as 650 virus genomes each week with two large awards from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention and Oregon Health Authority. That’s a big jump, considering fewer than 8,000 genomes have been sequenced statewide since the onset of the pandemic.

Once it became clear that coronavirus had spread to Oregon—and the United States—public health students and officials alike began to mobilize. By mid-March, the Oregon Health & Science University-Portland State University School of Public Health had formed a partnership with Oregon Health Authority to manage the growing outbreak. The partnership

has proven to be a wealth of real-world experience for students, providing a pathway to potential careers after graduation while also giving them hands-on experience with health equity. Student employees were assigned to support the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s emerging infection program, help with contact tracing and conduct case investigations for people confirmed to have COVID-19. For many students—about 25 students have participated in the partnership program to date since March 2020—providing support to more rural communities was most needed. **Jon Snowden, Ph.D.**, associate professor of public health, OHSU-PSU School of Public Health, said students were tasked with connecting people with “wraparound services” to help ensure their needs were being met as they recovered from COVID-19. These services include things like housing assistance, food assistance or securing a safe place to isolate. The conversations could be sensitive ones. “If we fail to connect or build rapport with some communities it could affect some people disproportionately and make things worse in terms of health equity,” Snowden says.

RESEARCH



A surgeon drills through a 3-D printed model of a skull, as he trains with a brain surgery simulator developed at OHSU, allowing doctors to gain experience without risking the life of a real patient. (OHSU/Kristyna Wentz-Graff)

A new laboratory study from OHSU finds that blood serum drawn from people previously vaccinated or naturally infected show “significantly reduced” defense against two widely circulating variants of the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. Researchers said that their findings emphasize the importance of vaccinations combined with maintaining public health measures to cut off the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. “We know that the virus continues to evolve for its own advantage,” said co-senior author **Fikadu Tafesse, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of molecular microbiology and immunology, School of Medicine. The researchers found the reduction in antibodies was especially pronounced in people 50 and older. The heightened susceptibility of older adults is concerning, said co-senior author **Bill Messer, Ph.D., M.D.**, associate professor of molecular microbiology and immunology, School of Medicine. “The people who surround our older and more vulnerable populations need to get vaccinated and minimize exposure to the virus,” Messer said. “You can’t just walk into a nursing

home because they’re all vaccinated. If you’re not vaccinated, that’s still a problem.”

An evolution in the training of American neurosurgeons over the past two decades has led to cohesive national standards that will improve patient care, according to a new report published in the *Journal of Neurosurgery*. The study was co-authored by 24 neurosurgeons across the country, including two from Oregon Health & Science University, where much of the work originated. Lead author **Nathan R. Selden, Ph.D., M.D.**, chair of neurological surgery, School of Medicine, described the report as a landmark in the development of neurosurgery training in the United States. “This is a report of two decades of work that has made neurosurgery training in America radically more effective and safe, and is turning out better neurosurgeons,” he said. “OHSU has been a leading center driving this.”



Tom Scanlan, Ph.D. a professor of physiology and pharmacology in the OHSU School of Medicine, March 10, 2017. (OHSU/Kristyna Wentz-Graff)

Researchers from OHSU have for the first time demonstrated it's possible to use a synthetic thyroid hormone to regulate a gene implicated in neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and multiple sclerosis. The findings from tests in cells and mice, published in the journal *Cell Chemical Biology*, raise the possibility of development of new medication to treat debilitating diseases. "This is the first example reported that shows it's possible to increase the expression of the TREM2 gene in a way that will lead to healing in certain diseases," said senior author **Tom Scanlan, Ph.D.**, professor of chemical physiology and biochemistry, School of Medicine. "This will generate a lot of excitement." The synthetic thyroid hormone compound, known as sobetirome and similar analogs, is already licensed by an OHSU spinoff company to conduct clinical trials for central nervous system diseases, including multiple sclerosis. In contrast to

other basic science discoveries in mice, Scanlan said this latest discovery connects this class of compounds to Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other neurodegenerative diseases, advancing the science that much closer to clinical trials in people with debilitating disease. "The possibility of doing clinical trials is not millions of miles away," Scanlan said. "It would be an achievable thing."

OHSU is among 25 specialized centers around North America to treat a rapidly degenerative form of parkinsonism that may be more common than generally understood. Known as PSP, or progressive supranuclear palsy, the disorder is estimated to effect six in 100,000 people. The condition leads to death in an average of seven years from its onset. In an effort to improve diagnosis and treatment, a trio of OHSU clinicians and researchers joined with other experts across the U.S. and Canada in co-authoring a consensus of best practices around the disorder. The paper published in the journal *Frontiers in Neurology*. Clinicians hope the new consensus document will raise awareness of PSP and a related disorder called corticobasal syndrome especially among primary care physicians, geriatricians and general neurologists, said co-author **Marian Dale, M.D.**, assistant professor of neurology, School of Medicine, and director of OHSU's CurePSP Center of Care. Dale said she believes the disorder may be far more common than currently realized. "We think it's underdiagnosed," she said. "The symptoms of PSP get confused with Parkinson's disease, but the pathology is actually closer to Alzheimer's disease." The disease primarily affects adults in their early 60s and older and is considered a "prime of life" disease. PSP is characterized by imbalance and early falls, difficulty coordinating eye movements, and speech and swallowing impediments.

An experimental, lab-made antibody can completely prevent nonhuman primates from being infected with the monkey form of HIV, new research published in *Nature Communications* shows. The results will inform a future human clinical trial evaluating leronlimab as a potential pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, therapy to prevent human infection from the virus that causes AIDS. "Our study findings indicate leronlimab could be a new weapon against the HIV epidemic," said the study's

lead researcher and co-corresponding author of this paper, **Jonah Sacha, Ph.D.**, professor in the Vaccine & Gene Therapy Institute. Made by Vancouver, WA-based CytoDyn, the monoclonal antibody blocks HIV from entering immune cells through a surface protein called CCR5. The injectable drug has already been studied in a Phase 3 trial as a potential treatment for people living with HIV when used in combination with standard antiretroviral medications. CytoDyn is in the process of submitting information to the FDA to request its approval for that use. This study, however, specifically examined preventing HIV infection to begin with.

The blood of people infected by SARS-CoV-2 shows telltale signals of immunity against new variants of the novel coronavirus as long as 11 months following infection, according to a new laboratory study from Oregon Health & Science University. The study published on the preprint server *MedRxiv*. “We think these results give us real reason for optimism,” said senior author **Bill Messer, Ph.D., M.D.**, assistant professor of molecular microbiology and immunology, School of Medicine. “The current variants of concern are not likely to truly escape the immune system of people who have recovered from infection.” Messer emphasized that vaccination is the best protection against reinfection, and that the vaccine is also the best protection for people who have not had COVID-19 to avoid getting infected or becoming seriously ill or dying from it. The new findings involved testing of blood drawn from 24 people who had been infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, with severity ranging from asymptomatic to hospitalization at OHSU Hospital.

Cancer researchers say they have established a new, life-extending treatment option for men with prostate cancer that has spread and become resistant to hormone therapy. The injected treatment combines a targeting compound with a radioactive isotope to irradiate and kill cancer cells. An international clinical trial sponsored by Endocyte, Inc., a Novartis company tested the targeted radioligand therapy in study participants with advanced prostate cancer. All subjects had cancers that had spread to other organs and continued to progress after previous treatment with two kinds of drugs, androgen



Tom Beer, M.D., F.A.C.P., deputy director, OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Director, OHSU Prostate Cancer Research Program. (white coat). Photographed 1/27/2020 at CHH2. Actors in Action Model is Keith Jordan, with Actors in Action. Contract signed 1/27/20 (OHSU/Kristyna Wentz-Graff)

axis inhibitors and taxanes. The experimental treatment significantly extended survival, delayed progression and was generally well tolerated by study subjects, researchers said. “This is a completely new treatment option that extends life and disease control in metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer – the most aggressive and deadly type,” said **Tom Beer, M.D.**, professor of medicine, School of Medicine, and one of the study leaders and deputy director of the Knight Cancer Institute. The added option is particularly important, Beer said, because the existing most effective treatments developed for metastatic castration resistant prostate cancer are now being used to treat early-stage disease. “Some of our best treatments are being used earlier, so by the time you get to metastatic castration resistant disease, you have fewer options,” he said. Beer is a co-author of the presentation of the results at the American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting on Sunday. The OHSU Knight Cancer Institute was among the top sites for enrolling subjects.



Ground-level falls are a common cause of traumatic injury and OHSU doctors are encouraging people to use proven fall prevention tips. (Getty Images)

The biggest single cause of traumatic injuries treated at Oregon Health & Science University now involves people, usually older, toppling over on level ground. Known as ground-level falls, this form of injury accounted for 22% of all patients treated for trauma at OHSU Hospital in 2020—the biggest single cause of traumatic injury and a sharp rise over the past five years. Even though it may not sound as dangerous as other leading causes—including gunshots, stabbings and motor vehicle crashes—this seemingly innocuous mishap is actually now the second leading cause of unintentional injury deaths worldwide. The reason: An aging population that's more susceptible to falls. Many of these injuries can be life-threatening, often due to underlying medical conditions exacerbated by impact. "Gravity conquers," **Martin Schreiber, M.D.**, professor of surgery, School of Medicine. "Within the past three or four years, ground-level falls exceeded motor vehicle crashes as the number one cause of trauma not only here but throughout the nation. "This is one of the biggest problems in the U.S. today." OHSU, one of two Level 1 trauma centers in Oregon, treated a total of 685 people for ground-level falls in calendar year 2020—a sharp increase over the 465 such injuries treated in 2016.

Over 70% of those cases involved people older than 65. "The fastest-growing demographic in the U.S. is people over 85," said **Katie Drago, M.D.**, assistant professor of medicine, School of Medicine. "It's wonderful that people are living longer lives, but it also means that we're seeing more cases of traumatic injury from ground-level falls." Drago said that after a first fall, older adults are two to three times more likely to fall again. "If we can do things to break out of that cycle, then we can actually reduce their risk of injury—and they can continue to live independently," she said. "Falling is not inevitable." Drago said she emphasizes the importance of physical activity with her patients, including aerobic exercise, strength training and balance through activities such as tai chi. She advises older adults to build exercise into their daily routine. Ground-level falls aren't typically due to any one factor, but could be a combination of factors. For example, medications can combine in unanticipated ways, leading to dizziness that contributes to falling. She often works with her patients to cull lengthy lists of medications and supplements. It's also worth discussing whether bifocals used for reading may not be ideal for moving around.



Emeritus Faculty Staying Informed

Thank you for helping keep our records current and you informed about the recent changes and news at OHSU.

COVID-19 is impacting our global community in many ways. During these unprecedented times we will be distributing the Emeritus Newsletter in electronic format only. You will have the option to download the recent Emeritus Newsletter by visiting the Emeritus Faculty Website.

www.ohsu.edu/education/emeritus-faculty

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AWARDS AND HONORS

OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital has been ranked one of the best children's hospitals in the United States, according to *U.S. News & World Report's 2021-2022 Best Children's Hospitals*.

This year, OHSU Doernbecher was recognized in the following pediatric specialties:

- 40th in Cancer
- 30th in Diabetes & Endocrinology
- 34th in Neonatology
- 31st in Nephrology
- 36th in Neurology and neurosurgery

OHSU Doernbecher is also among the top 10 children's hospitals in the Pacific Region, and ranks first in the state of Oregon.

The Provost, the Assessment Council, and the Office of Educational Improvement and Innovation announced the recipients of the OHSU Assessment Awards for 2020-2021. They awarded programs for their thoughtful, innovative, and excellent assessment work in five categories.

STAKEHOLDER AND DATA ENGAGEMENT AWARD 2021 WINNER: PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

This award is for programs that analyze their assessment data alongside stakeholders like students, staff, alumni, and employers to implement changes to the way they do things with the goal of improving student learning. The **Physician Assistant Program** has a continual rhythm of looking at data, visualizing it for stakeholders, and seeking student, staff, alumni and external stakeholder input and collaboration. Overall this results in a strong, data-based approach to improving student learning.

TRANSPARENCY IN ASSESSMENT AWARD 2021 WINNER: PHARMACY PROGRAM

This award is for programs who clearly communicate with learners and the public. The **College of Pharmacy** has made student performance data easily accessible and

visualized on their public-facing website. They clearly communicate alignment of learning outcomes in visible ways via syllabi and other documentation, then during annual advising meetings students reflect on how well they are learning these outcomes.

SCHOLARSHIP IN ASSESSMENT AWARD 2021 WINNER: NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAM

This award is for programs who are taking their assessment work a step further and engaging in assessing student learning from a researcher's perspective. The **Nurse Anesthesia Program** created a novel, mock oral board examination to assess funds of knowledge, critical thinking, and communication skills, and is using this data to evaluate their MN and DNP curricula and publish results. The program also developed an innovative virtual simulation for challenging clinical anesthesia scenarios.

EQUITY IN ASSESSMENT AWARD 2021 WINNER: PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

This award is for programs who are inclusive in their assessment of student learning. They disaggregate their data to examine whether any groups of students need to be better supported. They evaluate and update their assessments with universal design principles in mind, allowing students to demonstrate learning in multiple ways. The **Physician Assistant Program** is using multiple means of assessment as a way to create a more equitable learning environment. They are working to understand intersecting identities in a strength-based way, are re-thinking "professionalism", and are doing the work to move toward anti-racist curricula, admissions, and policies. They have examined their practices and come to see that they needed to change the curriculum to validate multiple ways of knowing and voices that have not previously been included.

PROVOST AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROGRAM ASSESSMENT 2021 WINNERS: NURSING, HUMAN NUTRITION, BIostatISTICS, PEDIATRIC PRIMARY & ACUTE NP, PHARMACY, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

These six programs received the highest scores possible

on their annual plans and reports submitted to the assessment council. They are all shining stars who communicate measurable learning outcomes, align with graduation competencies, reflect on outcomes not met, engage stakeholders, and "close the loop" by making data-informed changes.

Katherine Bradley, PhD, associate professor of nursing, School of Nursing, has been an integral part of the success of the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health since its formation, but her contributions to public health in Oregon span many years. The Oregon Public Health Association (OPHA) recognized Bradley's long commitment to public health and to the improvement of Oregonians' health by presenting her with their Lifetime Achievement Award at their annual conference. Public health professionals are nominated by their peers for this prestigious lifetime achievement award. The honor was an unexpected surprise for Bradley, but she notes that "being recognized by your colleagues has a lot of meaning." In addition to guiding students through the Master of Public Health – Public Health Practice program, Bradley has played an essential role at the School of Public Health since OHSU and PSU first came together to create the joint institution in 2015. During that formational period, she served as the School of Public Health's interim associate dean for practice, working with the leadership team to prepare for accreditation, establishing the framework for community practice and workforce development, and expanding the School's portfolio of internships and field experiences. Her background in research and education funding, grants management, publications, and presentations is extensive.

Sharon Norman, D.N.P., assistant professor of nursing, School of Nursing, was honored with The Society of Pediatric Nursing Excellence in Advanced Practice Award. "Being nominated and recognized by peers for a national award is very humbling and so appreciated," said Norman. This award recognizes an advanced practice nurse who has made a significant contribution to the care of children and their families, such as the development of an application or tool to monitor pain. An advanced practice nurse includes Clinical Nurse Specialists and Nurse Practitioners.

Quinn Denfeld, Ph.D., assistant professor of nursing, School of Nursing, has been an active member of the American Heart Association for over eight years. She has delivered numerous presentations, both abstract and invited, at the AHA Scientific Sessions over the years. Most recently, she has been serving as a member of the Cardiovascular Disease in Older Populations committee, the Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing Early Career Committee, and the Committee for Scientific Sessions Program. She has also organized and promoted local AHA events in our area. Dr. Denfeld's main research interest involves studying the biological mechanisms that give rise to symptoms and physical frailty among adults with heart failure ("symptom biology") that, in turn, affect outcomes such as quality of life and clinical events. Denfeld said, "Over the past 15 years of my nursing career, I have made significant contributions to cardiovascular nursing clinical practice, research, and education, as well as to the AHA. Being selected as a Fellow of the AHA is a distinct honor, and it will allow me to continue to advance my efforts to support the mission and values of the AHA." This honor "recognizes your scientific and professional accomplishments, volunteer leadership and service. By earning the right to include the initials FAHA among your credentials, you let colleagues and patients know that you have been welcomed into one of the world's

most eminent organizations of cardiovascular and stroke professionals."

Gordon Noel, M.D., professor emeritus of medicine, School of Medicine, was the first recipient of the Excellence in UME Career Advising Award. "While I have always advised medical students and residents in my roles as professor of medicine, chief of medicine at the Portland VA, and associate program director, since becoming emeritus I see a large number of students as an advisor, particularly with a focus on their preparation for the residency match," said Noel.

The School of Nursing presented three awards to faculty this year.

- Diversity & Inclusion – **Joanne Noone, Ph.D.**, professor or nursing, School of Nursing
- Graduate Faculty, Excellence in Teaching – **Tyler Chipman, D.N.P., M.S.N.**, assistant professor of nursing, School of Nursing
- Undergraduate Faculty, Excellence in Teaching – **Teri Copley, M.S.N.**, assistant professor of nursing, School of Nursing

Emeritus - COVID-19 vaccine policy compliance

In compliance with OHA and OHSU's COVID Immunization Policy, the OHSU Transportation and Parking office will require proof of compliance to retain OHSU ID badge access.

If you have an OHSU badge but your vaccination status is not being tracked in Enterprise Health, you will need to visit one of the OHSU Transportation and Parking Customer Service Centers to provide proof of

compliance to ensure your badge access remains active. OHSU ID Badge access can be reactivated the next time you return to campus by visiting one of the OHSU Transportation and Parking Customer Service Centers with proof of vaccination.

The OHSU Transportation and Parking Customer Service Centers locations and hours of operation can be found here: www.ohsu.edu/visit/customer-service.

For questions or concerns please contact your department manager, academic unit authorized approver, or the OHSU Transportation and Parking Office at **503-494-8283** or ohsuid@ohsu.edu.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

David Robinson, Ph.D. agreed to serve as interim provost beginning July 1, 2021. He succeeds Elena Andresen, Ph.D. who retired, and assumes the interim role while a nationwide search is conducted for a permanent executive vice president and provost. Dr. Robinson served as executive vice provost of OHSU since 2010 after more than a year serving as interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, and his administrative experience at OHSU spans more than 20 years. Dr. Robinson received a B.Sc. in Physiology from University College London, and a Ph.D. from Cambridge University. His post-doctoral training took place at University of California at Davis, where he subsequently became a research track faculty member before moving to OHSU. He has been with OHSU since 1997.

The recently-established Office of Learner Placement and Housing has now appointed **Bart C. Moulton, M.D.**, associate professor of medicine, School of Medicine, as Faculty Lead. As Faculty Lead, Dr. Moulton will:

- Establish and chair the OHSU Learner Placement Council to guide the development of an integrated system to manage learner placements in clinical settings.
- Develop and implement a method to use actual clinical teaching capacity within the OHSU Health System and major academic partners most efficiently to meet the needs of OHSU educational programs.
- Collaborate with the Director of Learner Placement and Housing to implement the tactics and activities associated with OHSU 2025 Objective 2.1: *Implement an integrated system to manage learner placements in all required settings.*

Dr. Moulton graduated from medical school at the University of Washington, before undertaking his

IM Residency at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. He undertook his PCCM Fellowship here at OHSU from July 2009 – June 2012. Dr. Moulton is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine for Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care. “It is an honor to be trusted with this position,” said Dr. Moulton. “I am excited to find new ways to maximize our clinical rotations for OHSU learners.”

Michele Burdette-Taylor, Ph.D., associate professor, Office of Academic Affairs, was named Regional Associate Dean – La Grande, as part of the Campus for Rural Health on June 21, 2021. This role will report to the Dean of the Rural Campus once a Dean has been recruited. She is a member of the Alaska Public Health Association and principal investigator of a grant-funded free Foot and Wound Care Clinic for the Homeless (interprofessional academic service-learning project). In her role as Regional Associate Dean, Burdette-Taylor will be responsible for the education, research and outreach activities associated with the La Grande clinical and education hub of the Campus for Rural Health. This includes close collaboration with leaders and administrative staff from OHSU’s School of Dentistry, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, Dietetics, Radiation Therapy, and Physician’s Assistant Programs. She will work closely with educational partners at Eastern Oregon University, the OHSU Nursing Campus, and Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education, and connect to the Eastern Oregon Workforce Board, as well as regional clinic and hospital administrative leaders and preceptors, and other key members of this community.

IN MEMORIAL

Shelley Jones, Ph.D.
2021

Muriel D. Lezak, Ph.D.
October 6, 2021

TRANSITIONS

Sharon Anderson, M.D., stepped down as dean of the OHSU School of Medicine effective Sept. 30. She will remain on faculty and anticipates continuing in a part-time role supporting the School of Medicine through the transition. Dr. Anderson's contributions to our university have been extensive. A professor of medicine, she was appointed dean of the School of Medicine in July 2017. Her previous roles include but are not limited to serving as associate dean for faculty development and faculty affairs in the school, chief of the Division of Hospital and Specialty Medicine at the VA Portland Health Care System, and interim and then permanent chair of the Department of Medicine. Her career has focused on patient care at OHSU and the VA Portland Health Care System, research in kidney disease and teaching. She was awarded the Dean's Award in 2001 and again in 2014, and the Faculty Senate Award for service excellence in 2006. Dr. Anderson earned her B.A. from the University of Maryland and her M.D. from Louisiana State University Medical Center. Just a few highlights of her contributions include the implementation of our Physician-Scientist Program, expanding residency programs for the School of Medicine, continuing the transformation of the M.D. curriculum and completing the reimagining of the Ph.D. programs and curriculum. Under her and Senior Associate Dean for Education George Mejicano, M.D., M.S., FACP's leadership, the school of medicine expanded residency training programs to improve access to quality health care in underserved rural, tribal and urban areas. **David Jacoby, M.D.**, professor and chair of medicine, was appointed interim dean of the School of Medicine effective Oct. 1. Dr. Jacoby received his bachelor's degree from Princeton University, his medical degree from New York Medical College, and was a resident and chief resident in internal medicine at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia. Subsequently, Dr. Jacoby spent 13 years at Johns Hopkins, where he served as research director for the division of pulmonary and critical care, and was Firm Faculty, a designation reserved for faculty most involved in house staff education. He was elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation in 2000 and was promoted to full professor with tenure at Johns Hopkins in 2002. Dr. Jacoby came to OHSU as chief of pulmonary and

critical care in 2003, and led the expansion of that division in patient care, research and education. He became interim chair of the department of medicine in 2017 and permanent chair in 2018. He is currently the Laurence Selling Chair of Medicine, professor of medicine and of chemical physiology and biochemistry, and chair of the Department of Internal Medicine. He is also interim director of the Knight Cardiovascular Institute. Dr. Jacoby has won multiple house staff and graduate student teaching awards at OHSU and fostered a scientific culture in the Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship Program. In 2008, he was named director of the OHSU M.D./Ph.D. Training Program, a position he currently holds. Dr. Jacoby's extensive faculty leadership experience, deep contributions across missions and significant institutional knowledge position him well to take on this important interim leadership role at a pivotal time for our university. **Susan Gurley, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of medicine and chief of nephrology and hypertension, will serve as interim chair for the Department of Medicine.

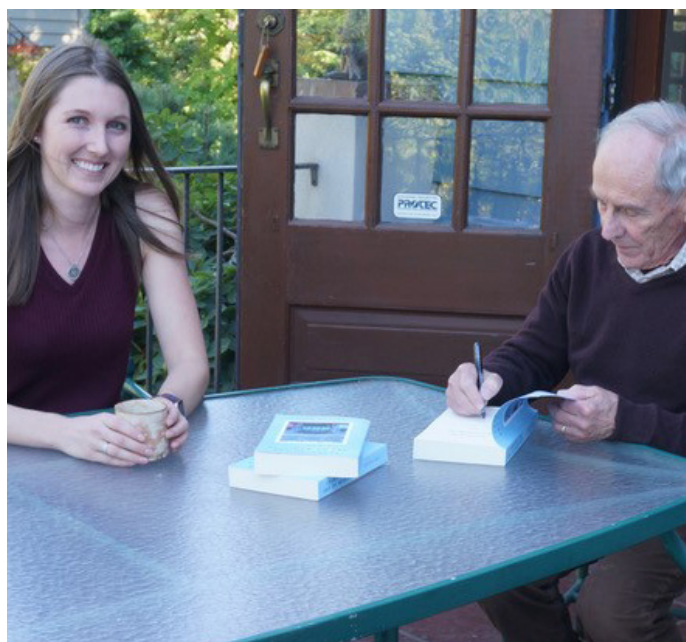
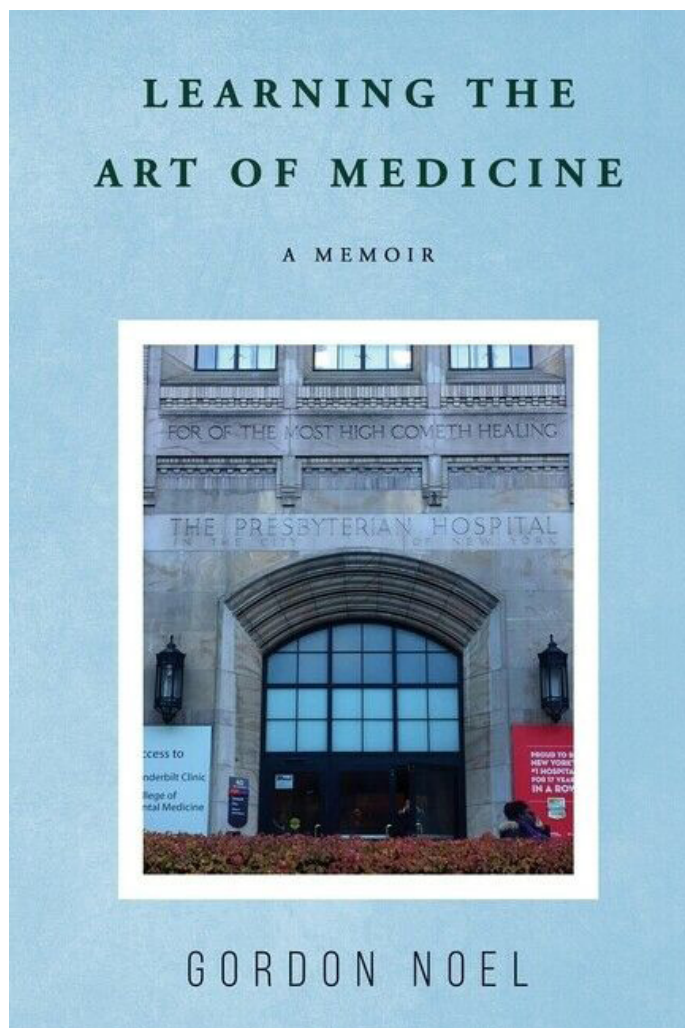
Christopher Sim, D.Sc., assistant professor of physician assistant education, School of Medicine, and director of the Physician Assistant Program, left OHSU July 21 to serve as founding chair of a new Department of Health Sciences and Clinical Practice at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. "Life has a way of intervening when you think you have a plan and, admittedly, COVID has changed every plan," he wrote to students and faculty. "The time I have spent here has been eventful in ways none of us could ever have foreseen. I am incredibly proud that students, faculty and staff have worked together to overcome historic challenges... Over 30 years in this profession, I have been struck by the many different paths that come to us, so, in turn, be open to those paths." **Pat Kenney-Moore, Ed.D.**, professor of physician assistant education, School of Medicine, and associate director of the program, will serve as interim director. Kenney-Moore joined the OHSU PA Program in April 1995 prior to the matriculation of the inaugural class. She served as the academic coordinator until 2018 and continued as the associate director of the program, responsible for directing a number of courses and serving as a lecturer. She is a graduate of the Primary Care Physician Assistant Program at the University of

Southern California (USC). She earned her master of science in Postsecondary, Adult and Continuing Education and a doctor of education in Educational Leadership: Postsecondary Education from Portland State University. Her clinical background includes family medicine and general internal medicine, and she continues to maintain a part time clinical practice at a free clinic with an underserved patient population. “I am honored to be asked to serve as interim director and pleased that I will be able to support our students and faculty and maintain our momentum as we come out of the pandemic,” said Dr. Kenney-Moore. “I could not be more proud of this program and its remarkable track record in the development of outstanding health care providers.”

The OHSU Foundation recently announced the appointment of three new members to its board of trustees: **Erik Amos, Eric Dishman and Robin Gantt**. All began their board terms July 1, 2021. The OHSU Foundation is governed by a volunteer board of trustees comprising civic and business leaders who advocate for OHSU’s missions and develop goals and policies for the foundation. “The combination of talent, experience and energy that Erik Amos, Eric Dishman and Robin Gantt bring will undoubtedly help the OHSU Foundation to advance its goal of supporting OHSU to improve the health and well-being of community members across Oregon, in Southwest Washington and beyond. We are delighted to welcome them to the board,” says **Matt McNair**, OHSU Foundation president. Trustees who departed the board as of July 1 were **Pat Green, Don Kania, Rob Shick, Jason Waxman and Rod Wendt**.

EMERITUS UPDATES

Gordon Noel, M.D., professor emeritus of medicine, School of Medicine, has published his second book, *Learning the Art of Medicine—A Memoir*. On the right are photos of the book cover and me with a senior student, Natalie Craig, signing her copy.





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FALL
2021



Emeritus

A NEWSLETTER FOR OHSU EMERITUS FACULTY