Focus on Students

Here at OIMB, we focus on students at all stages of education: first through sixth grade with our GK12 program, high school students through seacamp and other visiting education programs, undergraduates and graduate students through our regular and summer curricula, and continuing education through our public lectures, displays and other outreach activities. Thanks in large measure to the NSF GK12 program, the graduate student population in Charleston is more vibrant than ever before. Eighteen graduate students are working under the direction of OIMB faculty. They work in habitats as diverse as intertidal shores, estuarine waters, and deep-sea coral reefs. Based on recent enrollments, the new marine biology major already shows great promise, and we anticipate a full program of great students within the next few years. With students being a visible focus of the institute, we have chosen to focus this edition of the alumni news on students and the programs we offer them.

Summer Session at OIMB

Summer is the traditional teaching time at most marine labs; indeed, many of the older labs were founded originally so students would have a place to study living organisms during the summer months. High tuition rates and shifting interests of undergraduates have caused some labs to scale back their summer teaching programs, but the summer session at OIMB remains strong and vibrant. The 2005 summer session attracted over 70 students to OIMB and ours continues to be one of the strongest marine-lab teaching programs anywhere in the nation. Eleven courses were offered this summer, with instructors including both old and new friends. Charlie Hunter taught his very successful course on adaptations of marine organisms and Chuck Stasek showed more students that they can indeed draw in his biological illustration course. Stewart Schultz teamed with Gayle Hansen to explore the local area in a two-week course on marine plants and animals. Ann Cleveland returned from Maine to teach biology of fishes, and Jim Carlton found only one new introduced species in his biological invasions workshop. New faces to OIMB included Jason Williams from Hofstra University who taught a great invertebrate zoology course, and Cindy Van Dover from the College of William and Mary who conducted an exciting workshop about deep-sea hydrothermal vents. The OIMB graduate students have a much better grasp of statistics thanks to course in experimental design taught by Brian Bingham of Western Washington University, and Jan Hodder introduced another group of students to the marine birds and mammals of the Coos Bay area. A similar full course of study will be offered in 2006 and details can be found at the OIMB web page.
OMSA provides recreation and service at OIMB

Students at the University of Oregon in Eugene pay student activity fees that fund a diversity of enrichment opportunities including sporting events, special interest organizations, and recreational facilities. Several years ago, graduate students in residence at OIMB, who pay the fees despite having limited access to the Eugene social scene, organized the Oregon Marine Student Association (OMSA) to enhance the cultural and educational atmosphere of the remote OIMB campus, to empower and involve OIMB students in main campus student government, and to enhance opportunities for marine education in the local communities. OMSA has grown into an active organization that sponsors a wide variety of social and service opportunities for students, both graduate and undergraduate, at OIMB.

Undergraduate Jessica Bliss and M.S. student Jule Schultz apply ink to natural objects in an OMSA sponsored workshop in natural-history printing. Students and faculty were fortunate to be instructed in fish printing by last year’s McConnaughey lecturer, Dr. Eric Hochberg.

The Invertebrate Ball, sponsored by OMSA each summer term, was a huge hit in 2005, with representation from many animal phyla. Elaborate costumes included gum boot chitons, clonal anemones, nudibranchs, tubeworms, sea squirts, penis-fencing flatworms, and a siphonophore. Prizes were given for most anatomically correct, best colonial invertebrate, most creative, largest, worst, and best costumes.

Recent Marine Biology graduate Shannon Miller struts her stuff as Velella, the by-the-wind sailor, and undergraduate Matt Kalisz poses as a giant, scary and somewhat anatomically correct tardigrade.

Undergrads Stephan Bueton, Sarah Henrickson, Niko Kwiatkowski and Garret Steinbroner huddle together as clonal sea anemones.

Graduate students Ahna Van Gaest, Tracey Smart, Shawn Arellano and Maya Wolf with water pistols in hand, strike an elegant pose as “colonial sea squirts” for the 2005 Invertebrate Ball.

Pumpkins on parade following the OMSA Halloween jack-o-lantern party in October.
While it may appear from the preceding account that OMSA is all about fun and games, this student organization also provides welcome service to OIMB and the surrounding community. For example, recognizing the ongoing and unfulfilled need of marine biologists (students and faculty alike) for snacks and munchies, the OMSA students opened a self-serve honor-system snack bar that provides candy, cookies, chips, soft drinks, and the occasional healthy alternative. Proceeds from the sale of these items is used to support charities, mostly in the local community. To date the munchie fund has contributed to the Charleston Food Cupboard, to the S.M.A.R.T. program (“Start Making a Reader Today”), which encourages grade school children to read, to “Summit to Shore”, a local youth activity group for underprivileged kids, and to the American Red Cross for Hurricane Katrina relief. OMSA students sell not only snacks, but apparel (t-shirts, sweat shirts), mugs, hats, decals and other items, all emblazoned with original OIMB designs. Each term, the students sponsor a t-shirt design competition and sell custom silk-screened t-shirts to students and visitors. In a typical year, nearly 200 shirts are sold, and the proceeds of these sales are used to support attendance at scientific meetings, and also an annual three-day ski trip in which the graduate students rent a cottage near Mt. Bachelor and spend a few days cavorting on skis, snow shoes and snowboards while strengthening friendships away from the seashore. So far, only minor casualties have been reported.

Pumpkin carving was a messy event.

Masters student Ben Grupe models his award-winning design from the Spring 2004 t-shirt contest. On the front, the letters “OIMB” are cleverly disguised as the shell plates of a chiton. The back side (inset) also spells out OIMB with the natural shapes of a sand dollar, a sea anemone, two mussels and a pair of barnacles.

Octopus, starfish and kelp crabs are a few of the standard motifs that are generally available on OMSA-OIMB merchandise. Alumni and others may order short-sleeve or long-sleeve t-shirts, hooded sweatshirts, mugs, caps or decals by contacting the OIMB office staff (541-888-2581) who will put you in contact with M.S. student Kerri Kidder (current shirt guru, right, on snowshoes) or another graduate student. Better yet, drop by, say “hi” and buy a shirt!

Jim Trainer, M.S. student, poses with a snowshoe near the Mt. Bachelor lodge.
New Courses Revitalize the Marine Biology Curriculum

With the marine biology major barely one year old, we are already seeing increased numbers of students enrolling at the U. of Oregon to study in this field. As we develop the marine biology major, we are striving to offer a full range of courses so that majors have a full appreciation of marine environments, systems, and organisms. Our curriculum currently contains twelve core courses, some of which are traditional marine-lab fare and some of which take full advantage of OIMB’s unique faculty and resources. It includes organism-based courses such as invertebrate zoology, algae and photosynthetic bacteria, comparative embryology, the biology of fishes, and marine birds and mammals, as well as process-oriented courses such as biological oceanography, marine molecular physiology, and marine ecology. In this newsletter we feature four of our newer courses, Richard Emlet’s estuarine biology course, Nora Terwilliger’s marine molecular physiology course, Craig Young’s comparative embryology and larval biology course, and Jan Hodder’s course in marine environmental issues.

Marine Environmental Issues

Two recent publications, the Pew Ocean Commission Report and the Report of the US Commission on Ocean Policy, have highlighted the growing concern about human activities that alter the world’s oceans. The Marine Environmental Issues course focuses on information from these reports and provides an overview of human activities affecting the marine environment, which include overfishing, the introduction of non-native species, coastal development, pollution and global climate change. The course focuses on both the biology of the issues and the policy and management details to help students build a complete picture of each topic. We study the issues in global, national, and local contexts. Teaching this course at OIMB means we can involve the local community who are dealing first hand with the issues. A variety of experts including fishermen, water quality specialists, marine protected area managers and stewards, and state regulators are invited to the class to share their knowledge and experiences. Field visits to aquaculture facilities, estuarine wetland fill, mitigation and restoration sites, and areas with introduced species are an integral part of the course. Students read the literature, write papers and give presentations about a wide variety of topics.

Estuarine Ecology

Salt marshes with their sometimes hidden drainage channels, boots and shovels sinking into pungent anoxic mud, gaper clams squirting as the class moves across the sand flat, ghost shrimp mounds and lug worm castings – these are all part of Richard Emlet’s course in estuarine biology. On a square meter basis, estuaries and all their sub habitats are among the most productive ecosystems in the world. I developed this course after returning from sabbatical in 1999 and have enjoyed teaching it each fall to undergraduate and graduate students. The course combines lectures with field trips and laboratory exercises designed to introduce students to the organisms and habitats found through estuaries. On the first field trip, students dig up some 2 dozen species of clams, crustaceans, and polychaete worms, all abundant members of a nearby mud flat. They bring some of these back to the laboratory and place them in mud-filled tanks to see the impacts of organisms on the surface and subsurface sediments. In the RV Pugettia, the class rides the full length of the estuary and samples the water column with a CTD to collect data on temperature, salinity, fluorescence, and turbidity. They survey Metacalf saltmarsh for plant diversity, soil salinity and organic content. They quantify the abundance and distribution of infaunal bivalves on a sand flat near Empire. The proximity of OIMB to the Coos River and South Slough estuaries makes teaching easy and students learn about what is in our back yard. As one student stated, “For me this course is an opportunity to combine many aspects of natural science including biology, geology, chemistry, and physics. The estuary is the backdrop for talking about habitats like salt marshes, seagrass meadows, mangroves, and mudflats and biological consequences of gradients in salinity, temperature, oxygen, and human impact that are present at many scales.”
Students in the Fall 2005 Estuarine Ecology course learn to identify the rich flora and fauna of OIMB’s Metcalf Salt Marsh in Charleston.

Estuarine Ecology students counting organisms in ecological transects. All OIMB courses emphasize the application of scientific methods in hands-on studies.

Professor Emlet and students trawling from the RV Pluteus in the lower reaches of the Coos Estuary.

Students in the Spring 2005 Embryology class wade through deep mud in search of Abarenicola embryos.

Comparative Embryology and Larval Biology
During Spring Term, when many local animals are at the peak of their breeding season, students in Craig Young’s embryology class romp through the animal kingdom, spawning a wide variety of invertebrates, examining the embryos and larvae, and using the gametes and larval forms for experiments that illustrate how larvae feed, settle, migrate, disperse, and die.

Each student becomes “parent and guardian” to the embryos of as many as 40 different species and learns how to keep them alive, observe them with a variety of microscopy techniques, and record their development with drawings, photographs and video. However, not all of the course is taught with eyes glued to microscopes. For example, in one field experiment at North Spit, students release sand dollar sperm from syringes to study how water currents disperse and dilute the gametes under natural conditions. In other field trips, students seek the brooded embryos of mudflat polychaetes, the larvae of parasitic flatworms in snails, the newly settled juveniles of barnacles, and the tiny phoronids that live in the bottoms of mud-shrimp burrows. Late at night, with waterproof lamps submerged off local docks, students lie on their bellies and watch an impressive parade of crab larvae and swarming polychaetes drifting by. By the end of the course, each student has participated in both developmental and ecological studies with early life history stages and has learned details of invertebrate life history biology that provide a perfect complement to the invertebrate zoology course taught next door.

Embryology students establish an artificial halocline in a large plexiglas column to study how larvae respond to salinity gradients.
New face in the office; new voice on the phone
We were joined this year by a new office assistant, Cindy Nowlin, who assists lab manager Joyce Croes in all aspects of administration. Cindy is generally the first person to greet the public, both in person and on the phone. She is a long-time resident of Coos Bay and worked for many years for Weyerhauser. She and her husband have a high-school-age son and are avid hunters. Welcome, Cindy!

OIMB Embryology students listen intently to visiting professor Roland Emson (Kings College London) as he demonstrates techniques for obtaining brittle-star embryos.

Europeans Invade OIMB labs
Over the past two years, OIMB has hosted a number of prominent scientists from Europe, many of whom came to collaborate with the Young lab. Deep-sea biologist Paul Tyler, Professor of Oceanography at the National Center for Oceanography, Southampton, U.K., spent a portion of his sabbatical leave at OIMB in 2004, writing manuscripts, analyzing data, and exploring the rich Pacific fauna. He was followed by a visit from Johanna Jarnegren, a Ph.D. student from the Trondheim Marine Biological Station in Norway, who worked on deep-sea bivalve biology. Dr. Roland Emson, a well-known invertebrate biologist, came in March to work on the feeding and systematics of deep-sea crinoids and ophiuroids, and he was followed in June by Professor John Ryland from University College Swansea, Wales, who came to study west coast intertidal bryozoans and the reproduction of deep-sea zoanthids. All of these visitors were accompanied by their spouses. Finally, Claire Nouvian, a free-lance writer from Paris, France, visited OIMB to collaborate with Craig on a new coffee-table book. The book, to be published in France in 2006, will include many deep-sea photographs from the Young lab, as well as a chapter written by Craig on the animals of the deep-sea floor.

Tsunami Preparations at OIMB
The devastating Indonesian Tsunami in December provided a much-needed wake-up call for residents of the Oregon Coast. In September, various local agencies and organizations collaborated on an all-day seminar on Tsunamis, held at Southwestern Oregon Community College. OIMB Information Technologist Aleta Carte was one of the organizers of this event, which was successful and well-attended. One outcome of these discussions is that OIMB now has emergency weather radios throughout campus that activate automatically when Tsunami alerts are issued.

Marine Molecular Physiology
While not strictly a new course, Marine Molecular Physiology continues to evolve in an effort to keep students abreast of a with a rapidly changing field with ever more sophisticated techniques. Nora Terwilliger started this class in 1998, outfitting the laboratory with a grant from the National Science Foundation through a program called "Instrument Acquisitions in Support of Marine Biology Curriculum Development". Students in the course are introduced to gel electrophoresis, RT-PCR, spectrophotometry, enzyme assays, RNA purification and related molecular techniques as ways to investigate biochemical and physiological adaptations of marine organisms to changing environments. Crustacean molting is used as a well-studied model to introduce concepts, but each student has an opportunity to develop their own research question about a locally available organism. Students develop research, writing and speaking skills while learning how marine organisms work.

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Cindy Nowlin in a characteristic pose

Students in Nora Terwilliger’s Marine Molecular Physiology class at work in the lab.

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NSF funds new visitor residence building

Many alumni will remember the old “graduate student office building,” a 1940’s-vintage structure covered with white asbestos shingles and nestled at the foot of the hill behind the dining hall. Later this year, the building will be demolished to make room for a new 3-apartment visitors residence funded entirely by the Field Stations and Marine Laboratory Program at the National Science Foundation. Although we encourage visiting scientists to use OIMB facilities during the entire year, our summer housing for visiting scientists is always limited because most available housing is occupied by students and by visiting faculty teaching summer courses. The new residence will alleviate some of this housing pressure. Each unit will be fully self-contained, with kitchen, bathroom and living areas on the lower floor and a sleeping loft upstairs. We expect this unit to be ready for use by fall term, 2006. Graduate students, who have been using the old office building primarily for the storage of old papers and books, have all been relocated to the labs of their respective supervisors, and the OMSA t-shirt shop has a new home in the dining hall.

Artist’s renderings of the new visiting scientist residence building, slated for completion near the end of summer, 2006 (drawings: Carol Burgess).

Renovation projects completed

As last year’s newsletter went to press, we were renovating the second floor of the Rippey Library to include common-use computer labs, visiting scientist office space, a computer imaging lab, and conference rooms. Carpenter Rusty Rust and Trades Maintenance Worker Mike Allman completed this project and also divided the large dorms above the dining hall into individual rooms.

New second floor facilities in the Rippey Library include conference rooms, visitor offices, and computer labs.

Dining hall dorms now divided into small rooms provide improved living conditions for summer students.
OIMB scientists explore underwater volcano
Craig Young and postdoc Sandra Brooke were part of a team of scientists that took submersibles to Samoa for the first time to explore Vailulu’u Seamount, the active underwater volcano that will eventually become the next island in the Samoan chain. Using submersibles from the University of Hawaii, Young and Brooke participated in two separate cruises with funding from the NOAA office of Ocean Exploration. One highlight of these cruises was the discovery of “eel city,” a dense aggregation of small eels that nestle in the warm water and thick microbial mats on a newly formed volcanic cone in the center of the caldera. The discovery of eel city was widely reported in the media worldwide. A documentary on the discovery is in production through the Australian Broadcasting System, and Discover Magazine will feature eel city as one of the top science news stories of the year in their January 2006 issue.

Feature articles chosen from OIMB faculty research
Two highly ranked journals have recently honored OIMB faculty by highlighting their papers as feature articles. An article by Alan Shanks and Laura Brink is featured in the November 2005 (302:1-12) issue of Marine Ecology Progress Series. Entitled “Upwelling, downwelling, and cross-shelf transport of bivalve larvae: test of a hypothesis”, the paper includes a color photo of a bivalve larva taken by Richard Emlet. Journal of Experimental Biology (208:2467-2474, 2005) highlights an article by Nora Terwilliger, Margie Ryan and David Towle entitled “Evolution of novel functions: cryptocyanin helps build new exoskeleton in Cancer magister.” At the beginning of the journal, the technical results are summarized in a small feature article, “Blue bloods: how a crab makes its shell.”

Jan Hodder writes on science teaching
For the past year, Jan Hodder has been working with the Faculty Institutes for Reforming Science Teaching (FIRST) project to write a regular feature on student centered teaching in the Ecological Society of America’s journal, Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment. In each issue the FIRST team and develops ideas for how a paper in the journal could be used by an instructor of a biology or ecology course. Articles are archived at the FIRST web site: www.first2.org.

Globe-trotting librarian Barbara Butler: IAMSLIC President Elect
Barbara Butler, faculty member and librarian at the OIMB Rippey Library has recently been voted president elect of IAMSLIC (The International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers) for the 2007-2008 calendar year. Barbara has been active in this society for 15 years. This year alone, her IAMSLIC activities took her to Italy for the International conference and Croatia for the EURASLIC (regional group of IAMSLIC) biannual conference. In early 2006, In March 2004 Barbara will travel to Xian, Beijing and Shanghai China with an Association of College and Research Libraries outreach program.

BYU Marine Biologists spend term at OIMB
For nearly 40 years, Dr. Lee Braithwaite (Department of Integrative Biology, Brigham Young University) has been taking groups of 20-30 students from his landlocked university in Utah to marine labs on the Pacific Coast for extended course work on marine biology. He began in the late 1960’s with camping trips to Baja California, moved to the University of Washington’s Friday Harbor Laboratories in the 1970’s, and has been using facilities at Stanford University’s Hopkins Marine Station in Pacific Grove California for approximately the past 15 years. OIMB director Craig Young was a happy participant in several of these field courses during the Friday Harbor period. This year, Lee brought his class to Oregon for the first time. A group of 25 students spent 6 weeks on the OIMB campus, taking courses from Dr. Braithwaite in Development, Ecology and research methods. They will be returning next spring and we hope to welcome them back for many years to come.

Lee Braithwaite illustrates his lectures with legendary blackboard art.

The BYU gang. Lee Braithwaite (with hat) and wife Judy are seated in the back row (photo: Christine Yokoyama)
Alumni News

Jim Petersen (Ph.D., 1983) is Laboratory Director for the U.S. Geological Survey’s Columbia River Research Laboratory, where he works on ecology of freshwater and anadromous fishes.

Jeff Goddard (Ph.D., 1992) is at University of California Santa Barbara, where he continues his work on nudibranch ecology and on the control of introduced species by parasites.

Rosemary Furfey (summer, 1974) works for NOAA Fisheries on the Recovery Plan for Threatened Oregon Coast Coho Salmon.

Ben Enticknap (Spring, 1999) works as the Pacific project manager at Oceana, an international NGO.

David Obura (Fall, 1986) is the East African Regional Coordinator for the Coral Reef Degradation program in the Indian Ocean, a collaborative program involving researchers in 11 countries.

Amy Moran (Ph.D., 1997) has taken a new position as an assistant professor in the biology department at Clemson University. She and her husband, Peter Marko, are parents of a son born in December 2004.

Ali Helm (M.S., 2004) has moved to Washington State University in Vancouver where she is working as a research technician in the laboratory of Steve Bollens.

Erin Baumgartner (Summer, 1991) is an Assistant Professor of Education at the University of Hawaii.

Becky Gruber (Summer, 2000 and 2001) is a medical lab technician in Portland.

Kevin Johnson (Ph.D., 1998) is an assistant professor of Oceanography at Florida Institute of Technology.

Shannon Miller (B.S., 2005), one of the first OIMB marine biology majors to graduate, is working for the Coos Watershed Association and the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. At the watershed association she is conducting stream habitat surveys and fish monitoring and at South Slough she is assisting with a project on changes in hydrology and invertebrate abundance associated with the placement of large woody debris in the channels of the slough.

Jessica Miller (Ph.D., 2004) has been working for the past year as a postdoctoral fellow in the Shanks lab. She has just accepted a full-time assistant professorship at Oregon State University and will be based at the Hatfield Marine Laboratory in Newport.

Amy Puls (M.S., 2002) is working for the U.S. Geological Survey in Hood River, Oregon.

Mike Berger (Ph.D., 2004) is a postdoctoral research and teaching fellow at Bamfield Marine Station, where he has been teaching courses in Marine Ecology and working with fellowship support from the Pacific Institutes of Marine Science.

Jule Schultz (M.S., 2005) is working as a biologist at Olympic National Park in Washington State.

Anita McCulloch (M.S., 2001) has a baby girl and is working on a Ph.D. at North Carolina State University. Her thesis work will take her to the Galapagos Islands.

Mark Amend (M.S., 1997) is working for the NOAA Hydrographic Survey Division in Seattle and has a one-year-old son.

GK12 Fellow Christina Gierman lectures to first graders

Fellowship and Scholarship Recipients

The following students were assisted in their education by scholarship and fellowship awards during the past 12 months. All of these awards were made possible by the generosity of alumni and other donors. On behalf of the students, Thank you!

Neil Richmond Fellowship (an endowment from Oregon Seagrant in memory of Neil Richmond, a scientist at the Charleston Office of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife who passed away in a diving accident):

Maya Wolf, Ahna L. VanGaest, Laurel E. Nelson, Nicholas S. Stevens

OIMB Alumni Scholarship (an endowment to assist students who enroll in classes at OIMB):

Beth M. Tanner, Matthew J. Kalisz, Jenna L. Swisher, Cale S. Nordmeyer, Kelly M. Patterson

Robert C. Terwilliger Scholarship (in memory of Bob Terwilliger, a former professor and director of OIMB):

Michelle Schuiteman, Audrey Muto, Haley Harguth

Laura Bickerstaff Scholarship (a generous bequest from the late Ms. Bickerstaff in support of students who show “interest in marine biology and strength of character”):

Diana C. Perry, Teresa K. Myers, Serena Orwick, Allyson Gosling, Laurie E. Goodman, Tana Jo Bryn, Matthew D. Thom, Samantha V. Bund
Recent Donors
We thank the following individuals for their kind and generous donations over the past year.

Kathleen Hemmer Anderson '81 and David Anderson '81
Barbara '70 and Thomas Armentrout '71
Mary Asson-Batres '82 and Salvador Batres
Martin Bailkey '87
Mary Baker '76 and John Bauer
Diane and David Bilderback '65
Lynne Bonnett '69
JoAnn '74 and John Brehm
Charlotte and William Cary '69
Donna and Lawrence Dangott '77
Keith Danielson
Lisa Haggblom '87 and Andrew Devalpine
Stephanie Field '91
Kim Roth Geelan '86
Janet Gilmore
Judith and Grant Green '66
H. Bernard Hartman
Cynthia Layport and Steven Herring
Suzanne Easton and John Hoffnagle '76
Judith Horstmann '74 and Howard Bonnett
Barbara and Rolf Ingermann '74
Brian Jacobs '79
Karen Kaempf
Rebecca Kauffman-Piotrowski '85 and David Piotrowski
Marianne Kilgannon-Martz '78 and Peter Martz
Martha '67 and Michael Kutter '67
Edwin Lawry '71
Paul Lewandoski
Byron Lippert '54
Laura Lippman
David Look '74
Laurel Bell '84 and Timothy Love '85
Rebecca Lovett
Janet and Daniel Mahony '75
Kenneth Mantel
Teresa Gorden Matteson '78 and Curtis Matteson '78
Elizabeth and David Meredith '82
Teresa Maurer '85 and James Morgan '84
Anne '73 and Thomas Niesen '73
Sharon Bronson Northby '69 and Jan Northby
Alice Oglesby
Susan Peters
Dena Gadomski and James Petersen '83
Mark Peterson '79
Margaret '95 and Mike Pietrak
Kirstin Pinita and P. Thomas Pinit '99
Carolyn Bartoe Pitts '80
Marie Reeder
Michael Richards '66
Carol '61 and Jack Shininger '58
Debra and Stephen Smart

Historical Documents and Photos Donated
Diane and David Bilderback of Bandon, Oregon, have recently donated a number of photographs and other items related to the early history of OIMB. Dave was an OIMB summer student in 1965 and is now a retired biology professor. His mother was also an OIMB student in the 1930's and she met Dave's father, a coast guardman, in Charleston during that time. Diane and Dave have assembled from their family archives photographs and paperwork showing the lab and students from the earliest days and these documents significantly enhance university records from that time. They have now been scanned and will be held in the archives of the Rippey Library.

Diane and Dave Bilderback display notebook containing old photographs of OIMB and Charleston.

Summer brochure from 1941 (left) and photo of the OIMB auditorium (right) as a coast-guard lifeboat station.
View from the Director’s Window

Each time I walk through our beautiful campus greeting students, staff and faculty that I meet, I marvel at what great people OIMB attracts. Like all university campuses, we are a melting pot of individuals with diverse backgrounds, ambitions, outlooks and ideals. Never have I seen a group of graduate students who work together and play together more effectively than the great crop we have here. Our faculty are bright, enthusiastic, and devoted to the quality education of our students. Almost every cohort of undergraduates gels into a cohesive group, falls into the OIMB routine, and integrates itself into the pulse and beat of campus life. Perhaps the rhythm of the tides synchronizes and organizes the lives of our people. I am especially grateful for our excellent staff that make things happen and keep the institution moving along. Without being instructed in all things, they identify and solve problems, making this a great place to work and an extraordinarily pleasant place to learn. We also count ourselves fortunate to feel the real support of more than 5000 OIMB alumni. With our state operating budgets still inadequate, we depend on your generous contributions to support student scholarships and to make needed improvements and renovations. We appreciate the assistance many of you have given to OIMB in the past and ask for your continued support. Enjoy a tax deduction by making a year-end gift to OIMB! Your generosity really does make a big difference.

Please stay in touch! When you change addresses, jobs, or have significant events in your lives that your fellow alumni might find interesting, please drop us a line. We are already collecting information for the next alumni news!

Craig Young

Help Support OIMB Students, Projects and Programs!

Gifts of any size are appreciated and needed. If you would be interested in discussing tax implications or other aspects of charitable giving, please call the director at 541-888-2581 ext. 299. He will put you in touch with a professional who can guide you in your decisions.

To donate to one of the following funds, please clip and provide the following information with your check.

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Please mail contributions to:

Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, University of Oregon
P.O. Box 5389
Charleston, Oregon 97420
The Charleston campus of OIMB was first acquired by the University in 1930, so 2005 marks our 75th year of operation at this site, and our 81st year since the first marine biology encampments at Sunset Bay. As I look at the faded photos from those early days, I see in the eyes of the students the same enthusiastic spirit that drives our students in the 21st century. The environments have changed, but are still spectacular. We have more introduced species, but there is still a wonderful diversity of native marine life. Our faculty and staff are excited about these many years of progress and even more enthusiastic about the opportunities that confront us in the near future. We have more good ideas than the budget can possibly support. Won't you please help us bring some of these to fruition?

Craig M. Young
Professor and Director