

In the OPASsphere – May 21, 2009

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A service of the Oregon Pre-Engineering & Applied Sciences Initiative (OPAS) funded by ETIC

To subscribe or get more info, please contact Jo Oshiro - jo_oshiro@ous.edu or 503.821.1139

Submissions must be short and use embedded links rather than attached documents!

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Classroom Resources: Lesson Plans, Products, Video

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Events – Announcements

- **OIT in Portland 2009 Student Project Symposium**, Friday May 29, 2009 8:00 am – 8:00 pm, Portland Metro East Campus – more info at <https://www.oit.edu/portland/news/symposium09>.; please register at <https://www.oit.edu/portland/forms/symposium> -- Junior and senior capstone projects in renewable energy; demonstrations and presentations in IT, electrical engineering technology, mechanical engineering technology and manufacturing engineering technology.
- **First Annual ECE Capstone Poster Competition**, 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m, Friday, May 29, 2009 - Engineering Building, Intel/Gordon & Betty Moore Atrium, -- Senior undergraduate students work on team-based design projects sponsored by community partners such as local high technology companies, utilities, government agencies, and non-profit agencies. This special event showcases the variety and results of senior year projects from PSU's nationally recognized program to other students and the community. Please register at the following page to let us know you are attending: <http://www.ece.pdx.edu/CapstonePosterCompetition.php> -- for more info, please contact Kris Nieman, kris@cecs.pdx.edu or 503.725.5030.

Funding

- (U.S.) Office of Science and Technology Policy – **STEM Education in the 2010 Budget**, May 7, 2009 -- <http://www.ostp.gov/galleries/budget/stem.pdf> -- Budget Highlights for STEM education, K-graduate, in the Federal 2010 budget across departments from Agriculture to Transportation, including NSF.

Equity

- University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee (2008, September 8). **Tracking The Reasons Many Girls Avoid Science And Math**. *ScienceDaily*. Retrieved May 19, 2009, from <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/09/080905153807.htm> – Self-efficacy is a bigger issue for boys than girls; barriers vary between genders, ages, and whether the subject is math or science. *Thanks to the WomenTech Educators newsletter from IWITTS.*

Articles

- **The Engineers of the Future**, O Magazine -- <http://www.oprah.com/slideshow/omagazine/200905-omag-us-first-games/>

The OPAS Vision is that all Oregonians have the opportunity to choose and successfully pursue engineering or applied science as their field of study and career, thereby helping Oregon's industries contribute to state economic needs, and innovate and prosper in the global economy.

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- **Hilhi students compete in Robotics, film at 11!** -- Great press for our school and our kids: -- <http://www.kptv.com/video/19352593/index.html> -- Generally a short 15 second commercial plays and then the feature story is less than 2 minutes. It aired Friday night May 1, 2009. *Thanks to Don Domes.*

Policy

- **College for the Unemployed**, Inside Higher Ed, May 11, 2009 – Obama champions community Colleges, urges changes to financial aid and unemployment benefit policy to increase access to post-secondary training and education -- <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/05/11/unemployed>

PLTW

- The National PLTW office reports that **513 Oregon students have been registered** with TrueOutcomes, the people who do the evaluation for PLTW. You know we love to see that data ... and noticed that 23 schools in Oregon had not yet registered students as of May 14, 2009.
- The **OIT Summer Training Institute (STI) for PLTW** has 54 people registered as of May 18 – more than half from Oregon.

Classroom Resources

- **West Virginia Technology Education Activities, Lesson Plans and Design Problems** -- <http://wvteched.k12.wv.us/resources/activities/index.php> -- the one that caught Jo's eye? "Wolf-Proofing the House". *Thanks to Brad Naas.*
- **Tech Directions, linking education to careers for technology, career/technical and applied science education** -- <http://www.techdirections.com/index.html> -- products, supplies, posters for purchase
- **The Futures Channel, "Connecting Learning to the Real World"** is a good source for film clips relating to science, technology engineering and math -- <http://www.thefutureschannel.com/> -- *Thanks to Brad Naas.*

Fun Stuff

- **Technology Review** -- <http://www.techreview.com/> -- fun articles on the latest hot thing.
- **The World Future Society's The Futurist magazine** -- <http://www.wfs.org/futurist.htm> -- this could get some classroom discussions really rolling on political, ethical, moral, practical aspects of implementing (or not) technologies of hardware and systemic organization.

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