

In the OPASsphere –June 16, 2008

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

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Congratulations to Graduates and Parents of Graduates!

Job Search

- Oregon State's SMILE Program (<http://smile.oregonstate.edu/>) is looking for a **Programs Coordinator** in Corvallis, Oregon. Responsibilities include planning, coordinating, and implementing youth and adult science and math enrichment activities. This is a full-time, 12-month fixed-term position with renewal at the discretion of the supervisor. Annual full-time salary range is \$36,000 – \$40,008/yr. To view the full position description and apply, go to <http://oregonstate.edu/jobs> Posting #0002634 Closing date is 06/30/08

Events – Announcements

- **National 4H Council**, June 18th –Capital Hill event to support the Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) mission, with appearances by the 4-H Caucus Co-Chairs; Senators Saxby Chambliss and Tom Harkin and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, as well as Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer. **National Youth Science Day (NYSD)** will be announced. On that day, **October 8th, 2008**, 4H will encourage all youth to be scientists by promoting a science experiment that can be performed nationwide. The intent is to generate significant national media coverage and produce actual results, reinforcing the message that scientific exploration—especially via out of school activities—can be fun and engaging for youth and adult mentors. Media partners Discovery Communications and Nickelodean will help raise awareness of National Youth Science Day and the SET goal of fostering one million new young scientists and engineers.

<http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/scienceengineeringtechnology.aspx>

Events – Wrap-Up

- **Oregon State Wins 2008 Mars Rover Challenge**, *Information Week, 6.11.2008, by K.C. Jones*
OSU has won the second annual University Rover Challenge, a two-day competition held by the Mars Society at the Mars Desert Research Station in Utah. The team was commended for using common household products in the competition, which involved geology, biology, basic engineering, construction, and emergency navigation. Oregon State was the only team to locate a "distressed astronaut" during the navigation challenge. The team wins cash, transportation, accommodations, and admissions for five of its members to attend the Annual International Mars Society Convention in Colorado this August. All participants in the contest have been invited to give presentations about their rovers at the conference. Full article:

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.

<http://www.informationweek.com/news/management/training/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=208403417>

Weblinks

- ODE's Get Ready Oregon explains the new diploma requirements and the need for a more rigorous education: <http://www.getreadyoregon.org/>
- On June 12, 2008 **Achieve, Inc.**, and the **Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin** launched new web-based tools to help states and school districts establish mathematics coursework aligned with entry requirements for higher education and the workplace. The "**Mathematics Benchmarks, Grades K-12**" website at www.utdanacenter.org/k12mathbenchmarks makes the tools available at no charge to educators nationwide

Classroom Resources

- *Engineering Your Future* and *Survey of Engineering* are new textbooks from Great Lakes Press for high school and middle school – we now have review copies in the office. Please contact Jo if you are interested. More info: http://www.glpbooks.com/k12_home.html

Articles

- *EdWeek Lessons at the Museum* shows how some schools are making more intentional use of museum resources for science education.
<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/06/11/41museum.h27.html>

PLTW

- Dr. Wanda Staggers of North Carolina testifies before the House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor at the hearing entitled "*The National Mathematics Advisory Panel Report: Foundations for Success*", May 21, 2008
 - Read it --
http://opas.ous.edu/PLTW_Advocacy/Staggers_Testimony_National_Math_Advisory_Panel_2008.pdf
 - Watch it --<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2XSMRC6tzg&feature=user>

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