

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

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Events

- **Software Association of Oregon's UncorkEd Gala September 20, 2008 at the Portland Art Museum:** request tickets on-line at <http://www.techstart.org/2008uncork-ed.html> or contact Stephanie El-Hajj at 503-228-5435 or stephanie.el-hajj@sao.org. Join the who's who of Oregon's technology scene for an evening of wine tasting; desserts and liqueurs; Latin Jazz; dancing; celebrating the Teacher and Student Technologists of the Year; live student demos from Oregon City's Robotics Team, HilHi's InvenTeam, and Philomath's Game Project Team; and more Individual tickets are still available at \$125 each.

Announcements

- **Science Standards Revision- Feedback Requested**
ODE is currently seeking input on the development of state science standards at grade level K-8. Several issues are contributing to the move towards developing grade level K-8 science standards. These issues include:
 - The disadvantage to mobile students when instruction in life, physical, and earth and space science is provided exclusively at one grade level and the grade in which each of these science disciplines is taught varies among Oregon schools;
 - The potential that future national legislation will require states to develop grade level standards if science is included in Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP): and
 - Current research recommending that state standards be developed to reflect learning progressions of the "big ideas" in science across grades K-8.Please visit: <http://www.ode.state.or.us/surveys/template.aspx?sid=295> to provide input on this issue. For more information, contact: [Cheryl Kleckner](mailto:Cheryl.kleckner@state.or.us) at Cheryl.kleckner@state.or.us
- **PSU Announces Westside Capital Center Graduate-level Classes** in Engineering, Computer Science, Engineering and Technology Management – Classes start September 29 - <http://www.extended.pdx.edu/westside/engineering/>

OUS News

- The Oregon State Board of Higher Education's September meeting approved these and other new academic programs, all effective fall 2008: **Oregon State University and Oregon Health & Science University** – Statewide Graduate Medical Physics Program including a Master of Medical Physics

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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(MMP), Master of Science (MS) or Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Medical Physics. PSU – Graduate Certificate in Energy Systems; Graduate Certificate in Management of New Product Development; Graduate Certificate in Sustainability.

Equity

- **Teaching Secrets: Bridging the Gender Gap**, Teacher Magazine September 3, 2008
http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2008/09/03/01tln_jones.h20.html?tmp=423211962
This article gives a guided self-assessment of equitable and inclusive teaching practice, one of the best and most concise I have found to date. If you are aware of more formal tools helping not only teachers but administrators, program evaluators, and classroom and other volunteers to self-assess for unconscious bias, please bring them to my attention – Thanks! Jo

Weblinks

- A documentary called Two Million Minutes features high school students from the US, India, and China, showing the differences in their educational experience. Two million minutes approximates the minutes in the four years of a high school career.
 - Trailer at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WS_QENuOYL8
 - Web site at <http://www.2mminutes.com/>
 - Jo (jo_oshiro@ous.edu) is working on acquiring a DVD for loaning to interested parties
Thanks to Dick Knight.

Articles

- **Teaching Tomorrow's Engineers Today** by David A. Janosz, Jr. - January 2007
<http://www.janosz.us/viewpoints/TeachingTomorrowsEngineersToday.html>
The author is a very active member of the International Technology Education Association (ITEA).

Who's Who

- Dean Marilyn Levine of Eastern Oregon University gave an overview of EOU's capabilities as a partner in STEM education & outreach at the September OPAS Initiative Steering Committee meeting. EOU has a lot of expertise in distance education and a long and honorable record of service to rural populations, and new energy around technical outreach.
 - Summary slides: http://opas.ous.edu/Committees/OPASS/EOU_OPAS_090508.pdf
 - Computer Science and Multimedia Studies Brief:
http://opas.ous.edu/Committees/OPASS/EOU_Computer_Science_090508.pdf
- I, Jo, am soliciting similar slide sets (no more than 5 slides) for publishing "In the OPASsphere – Who's Who" section and on the OPAS Master Resources List. I reserve the right to ruthlessly return documents for more concise language, better organization, etc. Please also include a date and author/contact information within the body of the document. Additional brief documents or brochures may also be included. Submit to jo_oshiro@ous.edu, showing what can you bring to the table as a collaborative partner and key stakeholder in Oregon Pre-Engineering and Applied Sciences education. Submission = consent for OUS to post, publish and distribute (as pdf files).

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Fun Stuff

- **Celeste Baine's blog includes a YouTube video on CERN's Large Hadron Collider --** http://www.engineeringedu.com/celestes_blog/2008/09/cern.html -- suitable for classroom use. Yes, particle physics is pretty pure science – but look at all that equipment. Serious engineering has been going on.
- **Hurricane Gustav: The Aftermath** – Jo's daughter Laura is safely back in class at Tulane University, after a 9-day evacuation deep in the heart of Cajun country. Laura expresses a new appreciation for ribs, catfish, hot water, washing machines, bug repellent and mail service – the postal service drop boxes get taped up during hurricanes! At last report she's found mail in her box, been swing dancing in the warehouse district, and all is right in her world.

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