



OSU Extended Campus, Corvallis, OR; Winter Issue; February 2, 2007

Articles and Quick Links

## OSU Calendar

Are you wondering when the term is over? Or when your grades are due? Below you will find a quick link to the OSU calendar. Please remember the calendar is subject to change.

[Oregon State University Academic Calendar](#)

## Message from the Dean's Office

Enrollments in distance education classes and programs run through Ecampus are part of an astonishing trend over the past six years that have put OSU in the forefront of institutions noted for growth and diversity.

Please read more on this subject from Mark Merickel, our Associate Dean:  
[OSU Distance Education Grows at a Whopping Rate](#)

## Ecampus Faculty Focus

Beginning with this issue we will be featuring an Ecampus online Faculty member, who has been invited to tell us about themselves in their own words. Our first featured faculty is Wallis R. Sanborn, III Ph.D., online adjunct profession in English Literature.

Wallis R. Sanborn, III, Ph.D.  
Online English Instructor

I was born in Singapore and traveled the Far East with my family until I started the first grade. We then settled in Houston and resided there until the summer (1979) preceding my freshman year of high school, when we relocated to Taylor, Texas. After high school graduation, I joined the Marine Corps reserve (from which I was honorably discharged as a non-commissioned officer), went to commercial diving school, and spent a season working offshore.

In 1986, I enrolled at Texas Tech, and eventually, I graduated with an English major (Creative Writing) and an Art minor. After graduation and after working in the medical field for a number of years, I entered graduate school in the Texas Tech University Department of English. After taking my Master's degree, I enrolled in the doctoral program, where I completed my coursework in post-war (World War II) American Literature and advanced language proficiency in Latin. My focus in literary course work has been directed towards Modern and Postmodern American texts: of violence, of the Border Southwest, of the Anti-American Dream Individual; as well, I have also studied Chicano/Chicana literature, the American short story (19th and 20th centuries), literature of the American West, and the literatures of Cormac McCarthy, Raymond Carver, and Charles Bukowski.

After graduation from Texas Tech in 2003, I was the Visiting Assistant Professor of 20th Century American Literature at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin, in Odessa, Texas. I resigned that position to write my first book, *Animals in the Fiction of Cormac McCarthy* (McFarland 2006). I am currently writing a text on the Modern and Postmodern American Novel(s) of War, and I am also editing a first-hand account of the 1898

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[ecampus.oregonstate.edu](http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu)

Alaskan gold rush.

My teaching philosophy is one of analytical and critical reading, writing and researching. I believe that students must read heavily, and that I am to assist with the students' interpretations of the texts. I also believe that reading and writing and thinking critically are recursive and learned behaviors, and that all students can benefit from reading and writing revising with discipline. In the online classroom, I like to provide scholarly links for the students and promote dialogue through topic-specific questions. I am very passionate about showing the undergraduates (and when necessary, the graduates) how to effectively research through the use of the physical resources and online databases available at academic and public libraries. I argue that properly taught research skills will benefit a student for life, and I really enjoy teaching the students how to utilize an academic library system. As such, all of my classes emphasize online undergraduate research methods.

I am, for familial reasons, geographically shackled to Texas, and as such, my prospects are limited. For this reason, online teaching offers me a unique freedom, whereby I can work for a nationally recognized research university, out of the state of Texas, while I remain true to my family's needs. I want to spend my life learning, and I see academe as the finest opportunity to do so. Through online teaching at OSU Ecampus, I will be able to read and write and teach and learn, for as long as I am able, from the locale of my choice.

In regard to teaching at OSU Ecampus, the experience has been, and continues to be, overwhelmingly positive. As I have assimilated to the OSU Ecampus nomenclature, Lorrie Kauffman, Vickie Bailey, Dianna Fisher, Carlene Pelroy, and Cindy Lehto have all been wonderful and helpful.

In regard to the online discussion format, I think that the discussions have gone quite well. As I see reading as learning, the online discussion format affords the student / reader / writer the opportunity to participate in a constantly-evolving, ongoing, 11-week discursive, recursive process of learning.

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## Meet the new PDT Project Coordinator -- Mandy Misner

Some of you might remember me as the receptionist for Ecampus. I am the new Project Coordinator for the Project Development and Training Unit. In this new position, I can help with tracking your copyrights, monitoring the status of your course development and keep your projects running smoothly and on schedule. I can help you find web resources to enrich your courses. I am also the person who completes the final checklist before you teach your course for the first time. If you have any questions, you can contact me by email [mandy.misner@oregonstate.edu](mailto:mandy.misner@oregonstate.edu) or phone at 541-737-9341.

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## New Ecampus Exam and Proctoring Application

At the beginning Winter term 2007 Ecampus implemented a new online Exam and Proctoring Application. This is a secure web-based application where students can log in with their ONID account and enter their proctoring requests into a fillable online form. The new application can be accessed through the Extended Campus Exams and Proctoring website at: [Exam and Proctoring](#). Once in the application students can select the course(s) for which they need proctoring. They can schedule proctors for off-campus, on-campus, or both depending on their needs.

We created this new system in response to the high volume of proctoring for Ecampus courses (800+ students per term), which was taxing our old

hand-crank method. The system is designed to be user-friendly for the students and instructors, and to take much less time for us to administer. It is also more secure.

As the term progresses, we would like you to refer student questions about the proctoring system to us [ecampus.testing@oregonstate.edu](mailto:ecampus.testing@oregonstate.edu). By seeing where they are having questions, we can modify/simplify the instructions and use, as needed. Luckily, this new application was programmed in-house so our programmers can respond quickly to make necessary adjustments.

We welcome your feedback or suggestions on the new proctoring system, which can be sent to: [ecampus.testing@oregonstate.edu](mailto:ecampus.testing@oregonstate.edu).

Ecampus Exam and Proctoring

[Ecampus Exam and Proctoring](#)

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## Blackboard Training

Training for Blackboard Tools  
Paul Tannahill, Ecampus Training Coordinator, PDT

Paul Tannahill will deliver a series of Blackboard training sessions in February and March in the Barnard Classroom at The Valley Library. You can contact Paul at [paul.tannahill@oregonstate.edu](mailto:paul.tannahill@oregonstate.edu) or 541-737-2840 to RSVP (space is limited) and for questions or comments.

Below is the current Training Events calendar. We have scheduled class days and times to accommodate a variety of schedules. Our training sessions are subject to change, so visit the website for revisions or additions.

[Ecampus Resources and Training](#)

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## Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources

Oregon State University will host the 7th Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources on March 20-22, 2008. You can find details as well as a poster to print and share with others by clicking on the link below.

Please share this information with your university colleagues, students (both graduate and undergraduate), and organizational partners who are interested in educational practices in the various fields that comprise natural resources.

[UENR Website](#)

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## Parting Notes

Thank you for taking the time to read this Winter 07 issue of Ecampus eFaculty News. If there is a topic you would like addressed in future terms, or if you would like to submit an article, please feel free to let us know.

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[Faculty and Department Services](#)

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