

# PFLA

## Professional Faculty Leadership Association

Official Newsletter  
September 2011

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### PFLA President's Corner

Welcome back to campus and I trust each of you are ready for an exciting and productive academic year. As President of PFLA I look forward to working with the new Board on avenues to better serve the professional faculty at Oregon State University. Our organization is concerned about professional faculty issues, has a commitment to improving our profession and capturing the skills, enthusiasm, and vision of its members throughout the university. As a professional faculty member, your concerns and suggestions are welcome and encouraged to be forwarded to any member of the PFLA Board.

In an effort to provide continued development and networking opportunities, PFLA will be

conducting business slightly different this year in that we will not be holding our monthly luncheons and will incorporate open forums with campus leadership on important matters that are of concern. PFLA will continue to host professional development opportunities, after-hours networking opportunities and the annual Winter and Spring Galas. You will read more about these changes and events throughout the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you on University Day – stop by the PFLA Booth and renew your membership. Dues remain at \$30.00 and will be effective for the academic year instead of the fiscal year.

Have a great year!

Michelle Mahana  
PFLA President

### Updates & Changes

PFLA has made several changes this year. A new executive board has been elected and we have some new members at large. Due to everyone's increasingly busy schedules and rising costs it was decided by the executive board, to eliminate the monthly membership "brown bag" presentations. This change generated several alterations in the executive board's position descriptions and in the by-laws of the organization. (See changes on the PFLA website. Please notify the organization by email if you disagree with any changes being made). The change in meeting frequency allows for a greater focus on the professional seminars, group events and networking that members of PFLA can enjoy throughout the year. We also celebrate folks on campus that really make a difference in our jobs by publicly honoring individuals with our "HERO" award. We look forward to getting your submissions of those special people you work with.

## Professional Development

Save the date for PFLA's first Professional Development event of the academic school year. In this workshop, "Make It Sticky – How to communicate so people remember and act on your ideas," Nora Vitz Harrison will take us through a high-energy tour of success stories. Once we learn the sticky principles (based on the research of Stanford business professor Chip Heath and Harvard researcher Dan Heath who co-wrote the best-selling book "Made To Stick"), we will understand why some ideas stick and others fall away. This event will be held in the Willamette Room A/B in the CH2M HILL Alumni Center on Tuesday, November 1st. The buffet lunch and networking will take place from 11:30 – 12:15 and the presentation will follow.

## Upcoming Events

<b>Thursday, Sept. 22nd</b> University Day CH2M Hill Alumni Center	<b>Tuesday, Oct. 6th</b> Next Networking Event 5:00 – 7:00 pm Hilton Garden Inn	<b>Tuesday, Nov. 1st</b> Professional Development 11:30 - 2:00 pm CH2M Hill Alumni Center	<b>Thursday, Dec. 1st</b> Winter Gala Women's Building Lobby
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### PFLA Karel J.H. Murphy Award

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the Karel J.H. Murphy Professional Faculty Leadership and Service Award this year is Michelle Mahana, Executive Assistant to the Dean in the College of Public Health and Human Sciences. The award, which is sponsored by OSU's PFLA, is given annually to recognize a professional faculty member who has provided outstanding leadership and service throughout their career both within their department and in programs and organizations across the university. Michelle will be officially recognized as the recipient of the Karel J.H. Murphy Award at University Day, when she will receive a \$1,000 check.

Michelle has been with the College of Public Health and Human Sciences since 1978.

Throughout her 33 years with the College, she has continuously provided dependable, valuable, and critical support for 7 deans as well as numerous directors and managers.

Michelle has always been an active proponent of the university and professional organizations on campus. She has been a member of OSU's Association of Office Professionals (AOP) for 22 years as well as an active member of OSU's Professional Faculty Leadership Association (PFLA), for which she is currently serving as President.

Michelle believes strongly in supporting the university community. She coordinated the OSU Charitable Fund Drive for seven years, has served as a Faculty Senator since 2008, and has served on OSU's Student Conduct Committee for five years.

As you can see from Michelle's many years of service and involvement at OSU, she epitomizes Karel Murphy's legacy of excellence in leadership, support, and professionalism.

A well-deserved honor, Michelle. Congratulations!

