

MORRILL ACT:



**The Morrill Act of 1862** represented a revolutionary idea: the democratization of higher education.

Written by Rep. Justin Smith Morrill of Vermont and signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln, the Morrill Act provided grants of federal lands to the states to fund the establishment of public universities, extending higher education from the privileged few to the many. The creation of these people's colleges across the nation — and in states such as Oregon — inspired learning, promoted innovation and helped to grow vibrant local economies.

*“The land-grant university system is being built on behalf of the people who have invested in these public institutions their hopes, their support and their confidence.”*

— President Abraham Lincoln, July 2, 1862

Justin Smith Morrill

## MORRILL ACT:

# 150

YEARS OF LEARNING



1862

President Lincoln signs the Morrill Act, creating the nation's system of land grant colleges.



1868

The Oregon Legislative Assembly designates Corvallis College as "the Agricultural College of the State of Oregon."



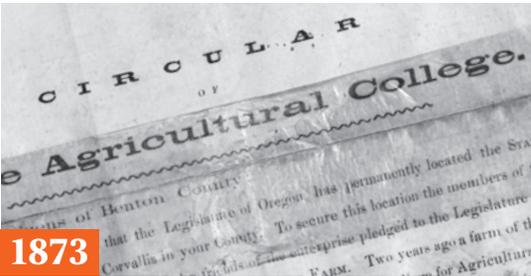
1870

Corvallis College's first class — Robert M. Veatch, Alice Biddle, and J.K.P. Currin — earn the first degrees granted in the western U.S. by a state-supported college or university.



1871

To meet Morrill Act requirements for teaching agriculture, Corvallis College purchases a 35-acre farm for \$4,500, funded entirely by more than 100 local citizens.



1873

Corvallis State Agricultural College publishes its first agricultural research bulletin, beginning a tradition of delivering practical, problem-solving research to farmers and ranchers statewide.



1887

The federal Hatch Act establishes agricultural experiment stations at land grant universities. Oregon's first Agricultural Experiment Station begins research activities in 1888.



1890

Oregon Agricultural College becomes one of the first land grant institutions in the nation to offer scientific courses to women.



1900

The Department of Commerce, forerunner to Oregon State's College of Business, is the first to be established in the Pacific Northwest.



1901

The first Branch Experiment Station is established in Eastern Oregon near La Grande at Union.



1911

Oregon Agricultural College launches the Extension Service to meet the needs of all communities across Oregon, three years before federal legislation required such services at all land grant universities.

**Oregon State**  
UNIVERSITY

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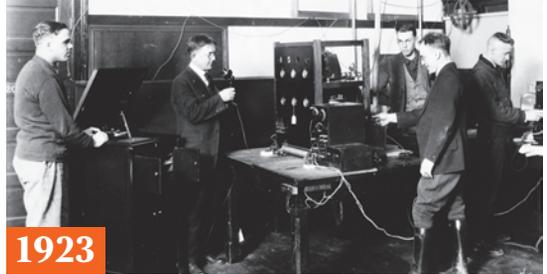
# 150

YEARS OF LEARNING



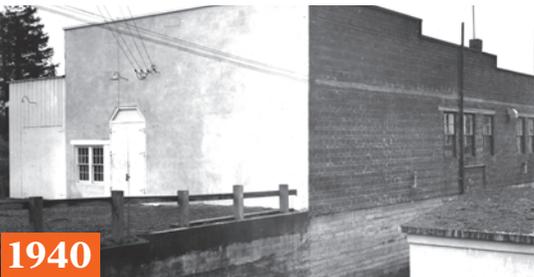
**1916**

Extension takes responsibility for managing youth industrial clubs, the foundation for today's 4-H clubs, which serve thousands of youth in every corner of the state.



**1923**

The Extension Service begins radio broadcasts that reach across the state, with farm reports and practical education for the home, farm and business. Radio station KOAC eventually served as the foundation for what is now Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB).



**1940**

Oregon State establishes the Seafood Laboratory in Astoria, which continues to lead innovative research that supports the international fishing and seafood industries, including the annual Surimi School that draws attendees worldwide.



**1945**

Oregon State ROTC commissions more than 2,000 officers during World War II, more officers than any other nonmilitary academy, earning the nickname the "West Point of the West."



**1968**

Oregon State is one of three universities in the nation selected to take part in the new Sea Grant program, applying the Extension model to ocean and coastal issues.



**1991**

Oregon State is designated as a Space Grant university, leading a statewide consortium to support space science and engineering education from middle school through graduate school.



**1999**

The Food Innovation Center, a collaboration between Oregon State and the Oregon Department of Agriculture, is established in Portland to help farmers, food companies and entrepreneurs develop, promote, market and export Northwest foods.



**2001**

OSU-Cascades opens in Bend, offering bachelor's and master's degrees for the first time in Central Oregon.



**2004**

Oregon State is one of five Sun Grant institutions established to develop sustainable and renewable agricultural products based on energy from the sun. This makes Oregon State one of only two land, sea, space and sun grant institutions in the U.S.



**2012**

A record 4,979 students graduate from Oregon State University and OSU-Cascades, joining the 160,000 alumni who make a positive difference in their communities and in the economy across Oregon and beyond.

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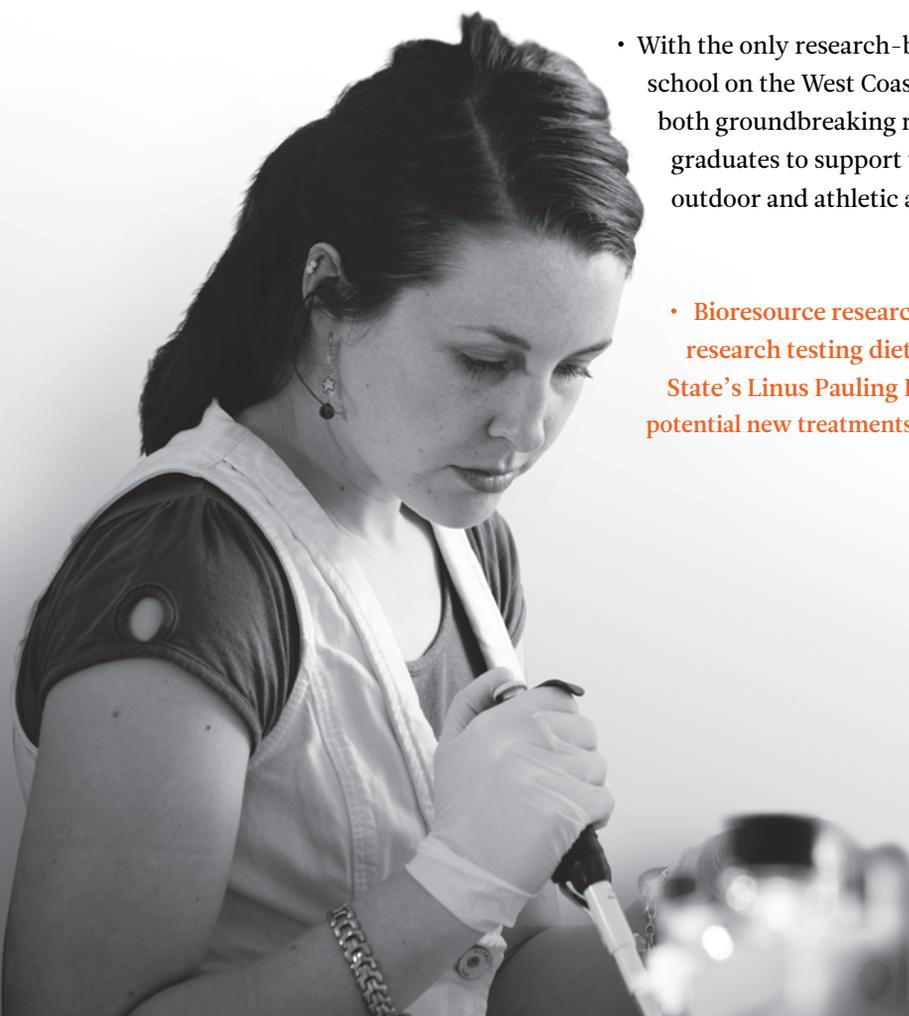
## Education, Research and Outreach for the 21st Century

The land-grant mission — to serve the common good through accessible education, problem-solving research and outreach to the community — remains elemental to who we are. By making a significant, positive impact across Oregon, the nation and the world, Oregon State University applies the vision of the Morrill Act to the challenges of the 21st century.

- The Bridge to Success program, largest scholarship of its kind in the state, covers all tuition and fee costs for more than 3,000 Oregon students.
- Oregon State faculty researchers have developed dozens of high-producing wheat varieties, and Extension agents continue helping Oregon farmers increase yields, manage pests and irrigate more effectively to support the state's \$300 million wheat crop.
- Oregon State enrolls more valedictorians and other high-achieving students from across Oregon than any other university in the state.
- It wasn't what Wood Science and Engineering professor Kaichang Li set out to create. It was even better: a pressure-sensitive adhesive made from renewable sources that could impact a \$20 billion global market.
- Oregon State is helping make renewable wave energy a reality, through research and testing of wave energy buoys, along with outreach by Sea Grant Extension to address impacts on coastal communities, the fishing industry and ocean ecosystems.

- With the only research-based apparel design school on the West Coast, Oregon State provides both groundbreaking research and qualified graduates to support the growth of Portland's outdoor and athletic apparel industry.

- **Bioresource research major Anneke Griffith's research testing dietary enzymes at Oregon State's Linus Pauling Institute may help lead to potential new treatments for type II diabetes.**



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## Education, Research and Outreach for the 21st Century

- Oregon State researchers have developed pest management strategies that use nature's own processes to disrupt reproduction, an environmentally friendly method that also saves Southern Oregon pear growers \$100 to \$150 an acre compared to toxic pesticides.
- Oregon State faculty and student researchers have conducted more than \$2 million in metals-related research since 2007, helping manufacturers like Daimler Trucks, Boeing and Benchmade with product innovations and product process improvements.
- Microchannel technology pioneered at Oregon State has been licensed to Home Dialysis Plus, an Oregon-based startup that is developing a device that will let kidney patients receive dialysis treatments at home, often while they are sleeping.
- Since 2007, Oregon State has doubled its population of international students, welcoming more than 1,800 students from 91 countries in fall 2011.
- With children in rural communities at a greater risk for obesity, Oregon State researchers Deborah John and Kathy Gunter have teamed with the OSU Extension Service to launch an obesity prevention program that promotes healthy eating and physical activity.
- Since 2004, Oregon State's 4-H International Camp has helped more than 300 minority students learn how to apply for college, financial aid and scholarships, including Jessica Casas, who earned a Gates Millennium Scholarship that provides full funding through graduation.
- The Oregon State student chapter of Engineers without Borders has designed and built systems to provide clean drinking water to remote communities in El Salvador and Kenya.

