



Photo from 1969 Oregonian

TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'

From draft demonstrations to Malcolm X Day and ROTC marches, the Class of 1969 witnessed national change right on campus. So perhaps it's not surprising that they decided to direct their 50th reunion class gift to a new beacon of change on campus, the Willie and Donald Tykeson Hall.

Academic and career advising are integrated under one roof

in Tykeson Hall, an innovative model focused on providing students with resources, mentorships, and services (see story, page 14).

"It's the first of its kind in the country," says Ed Ellis, BS, '69 (economics), chair of the 50th reunion steering committee, who helped encourage classmates to give more than \$100,000 so far toward the gift. "The university is stepping up and doing something unique. We're proud to be part of that."

A TEACHER'S LEGACY

As a teacher, volunteer, mentor, and writer, the late Janet Hughes Mersereau, BA '69 (English), MA '71 (English), touched countless lives. Over the years, she held positions that reflected her passion for helping others, including migrant program instructor, vocational school instructor, community college instructor, and ESL teacher. She also volunteered at the Multnomah County Library in a variety of roles, as well as at St. Vincent's Hospital in Portland.

Her generous spirit endures through the Janet Hughes Mersereau Scholarship Fund at the UO's American English

Institute (AEI), a fund she established in 2017.

"It's not very often that funding for international students studying English in an intensive program is available," says Cheryl A. Ernst, AEI's executive director. "This is truly a rare gift—a life-changing opportunity for our students."

Those students include Aline Valenta David, who struggled to find a school in Brazil that would accommodate her learning disabilities. In Janet, she found a financial supporter and epistolary mentor. "My desire is to be just like her, to help and transform people's lives," Valenta David says.



American English Institute Director Cheryl Ernst with two recipients of the Janet Hughes Mersereau Scholarship, Aline Valenta David and Djeny Vastie



Mark Stanard, BS '65 (economics), Gary Davis BS '69 (marketing), Assistant Athletic Director, Equipment Operations and Championships Aaron Wasson, and Ken Davis, BLA '77 (landscape architecture)

SIDELINE GIG

When Ken Davis, BLA '77 (landscape architecture), thinks about UO football in the 1970s, he remembers chartered flights, two practices daily, and camaraderie among the team. Unlike the players, however, he also recalls getting sandwiches for coaches, organizing equipment, adjusting helmets, and countless other responsibilities as student manager.

"People think managers just put a ball on the field," Davis says. "They don't realize there's a lot more to it than that."

In recognition of the important role of student managers, Davis has made the inaugural gift to a new athletic fund designed to support these students. Today, managers work in updated facilities and receive a paycheck, but their passion for the role mirrors Davis's own.

"I enjoyed my manager years," he says. "It was a special time."

—Kelsey Schagemann