

Greetings from the Editor, Winter 2010

The magazine you hold in your hand is the next-to-last printed *Metroscape*®. The summer 2010 issue will be the last one committed to paper—at least, by the magazine's staff. Looking into the future and in light of recent cuts to the Portland State University and College of Urban and Public Affairs budgets, it's clear we must find a way to reduce expenses.

Fortunately, there is a way to shrink the budget while continuing to publish the magazine and present you with not just the same high quality and informative journal about our region that you've enjoyed for the last seventeen years, but an even better one. Like a lot of print media, we are ready to make the transition to online status as a matter of necessity. But as we explored our options, it became clear that this would also be a step into a new world of possibilities for bringing you news and analysis of the region. So, for example, we might publish a podcast of the issue's interview, so that you'll hear the inflections in the voice of the interviewee that drive home a particular point. Contrast that to the transcript of questions and answers that lie upon a page. In addition, we will be able to convey to you interactive maps in the atlas section, bringing home more vividly than ever the spatial dimensions of the topic under examination. Those are just a couple of the opportunities to enhance our coverage of the region that this change will open to you, our readers.

The *Metroscape*® staff is made up of people steeped in the printed word, so it wasn't easy for us to accept the necessity of this change. But in addition to the great possibilities of going online, we were able, while sifting through the numberless programs for electronic publication, to find ones that reproduce as nearly as possible in cyberspace, the experience of reading a paper periodical. We'll be formatting

the magazine in one of them, with the intention of making it as easy as possible for you to transition with us to the new style of reading *Metroscape*®.

Meanwhile, the current issue of *Metroscape*® contains the kind of thoughtful pieces that have kept you reading us for all these years. Dr. Mary King writes on the gendered recession in the region. Tim DuRoche remembers the movement that culminated in Tom McCall Park. The atlas, authored by Moriah McSharry McGrath and Gretchen Luhr, looks at disease clusters, and the Landscape portraitizes Forest Grove. Susan Wilson elicits from a small town high school principal all of the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of running a rural high school in the region.

This issue of *Metroscape*® is late due to the closure of Portland State University and the furloughing of faculty and staff, December 19-28. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Craig Wollner
Editor in Chief