

2011 Distinguished Alumni Awards

Recipients will be honored at the Reunion and Awards Gala on Saturday evening of Summer Reunion Weekend, June 3-5.

Professional Achievement Award

Presented to alumni who have gained regional, national, or international recognition for professional achievements that reflect positively on the University of Puget Sound and the Alumni Association.



Lifetime
C. Mark Smith '61

C. Mark Smith majored in history at Puget Sound and was a member of Sigma Chi, the Veteran's Club, the Artists and Lecture Series

Committee, and the International Relations Club. Mark was a national officer of Sigma Chi for many years and was named to the Order of Constantine, the fraternity's highest alumni honor. He currently serves on the Tri-Cities Research Board, the Richland Library Board Foundation, and the Mid-Columbia Badger Forum. For more than 40 years Mark managed economic development organizations at the local, state, and federal level, including serving as director of the Western Regional Office of the federal Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce; the Tacoma-Pierce County Economic Development Board; the Economic Development Executives of Washington; the Birmingham (Ala.) Office of Economic Development; and the Economic Development Office for the City of Richland, Wash. Now semiretired, he is president of C. Mark Smith & Associates, providing planning and economic development services to local governments and nonprofit organizations. For more than 25 years Mark served on the boards of the American Economic Development Council, the National Council for Urban Economic Development, and the International Economic Development Council, in which he is a Fellow Member and Honorary Life Member. In 2004 he received a special Lifetime Achievement Award from Washington Gov. Gary Locke and was honored after the Washington Economic Development

Association's first honorary lifetime member. He is a former member of Puget Sound's board of trustees and a co-founder of the university's Harry P. Cain scholarship, established for students entering the field of public administration or public service. Most recently Mark is the author of *Raising Cain*, a biography of Harry Cain, the former mayor of Tacoma and a U.S. senator. He has served as chairman of the Mount Rainier Council of the Boys Scouts of America and is a Paul Harris Fellow with Rotary International.



Mid-career
Seema Sueko Ahmed Hirsch '94

Seema Sueko began exploring the relationship between politics and performance during her student days at Puget Sound. A politics and government honors student, Seema performed on stage in plays and operettas, sang with the Adelphean Concert Choir, and was a member of the Diversity Committee. After graduating from Puget Sound she received her M.A. in international relations from the University of Chicago, where she decided that she "could make an impact or affect change through the arts more than [she] could through academia." Seema then launched a successful stage career. Her credits include theaters throughout Chicago; the Yale Repertory Theatre in New Haven, Conn.; the Old Globe in San Diego; the Ohio Theater in New York City; and The 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle. She is a three-time winner of the Chicago Jeff Citation. In 2004 she co-founded the Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company, with the goal of creating professional, socially-conscious theater, and providing a voice for diverse and underrepresented actors and communities. For Mo'olelo, Seema directed *Since Africa* (which she directed a second time at The Old Globe), *The Adoption Project: Triad*, *Permanent Collection*, *Good Boys*, and *Yellow Face*. Seema also has written four plays, including *Stretched*, about the relationship between a Muslim girl and a Protestant boy; *remains*, which earned her the 2004 Anti-Discrimination Committee Arts and Cultural Achievement Award; and *Hijab Tube* and *Messy Utopia*, which were commissions for the Mixed Blood

Theatre in Minneapolis. Her playwriting was acknowledged with the KPBS Patté McDonald Playwriting Award and an Ivey Award. As executive artistic director of Mo'olelo, Seema led the company to its selection as the Inaugural Resident Theatre Company at La Jolla Playhouse developed its greening initiative and consensus-organizing methodologies, and gained international recognition for the development of The Mo'olelo Green Theater Choices Toolkit. Seema recently was honored by the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle with the Des McAnuff New Vision Award, which recognizes "inspired and risk-taking artistic vision."

Service to the University of Puget Sound

Presented to alumni who have made long-standing volunteer contributions that have made a profound impact on the Puget Sound community.



Lowell Daun '68

While a student at Puget Sound, Lowell Daun was like most Puget Sound undergraduates—engaged on many different fronts. He majored in biology, was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, played trumpet in the concert band, soloed with the Adelpheans several times, sang in the chapel choir, served in student government, was Kappa Alpha Theta's "Mr. Wonderful," and one year was even selected Homecoming King. After graduation Lowell went on to graduate work at Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Tech and received his Doctor of Dental Surgery at the University of the Pacific. On his way to a general practice residency, he changed course and joined the American Dental Association in an executive role, before joining Delta Dental Plan to head up its federal government-related businesses. As he pursued his career, Lowell also began his decades-long service to Puget Sound. Lowell was for many years what one nominator called "the face of Puget Sound in California." He has helped in virtually every area of alumni involvement—from undergraduate admission to career mentoring, from alumni networking to advising on Greek life, Lowell has provided wise counsel to his alma mater. He