Dalit Baum, Ph.D., is an Israeli feminist, anti-occupation activist and co-founder of "Who Profits from the Occupation" [whoprofits.org] in the Coalition of Women for Peace, that studies and reports corporate complicity in the Israeli occupation of Palestine. She will speak in Eugene, **Tuesday, April 17, 7pm** on "Occupy the Occupation" - how feminist/LGBQT and solidarity activists can take on the corporate profiteers from war and occupation and will describe the success of the Boycott-Divest-Sanction [BDS] movement around the world.

Willamette Hall 100, University Oregon 1371 E 13th

Co-sponsored by Students for Palestinian Liberation & Al-Nakba Awareness Project,

Dalit will also be speaking in Corvallis Monday, April 16, 2012, 7:00PM

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship • 2945 NW Circle Blvd. • 6pm Potluck

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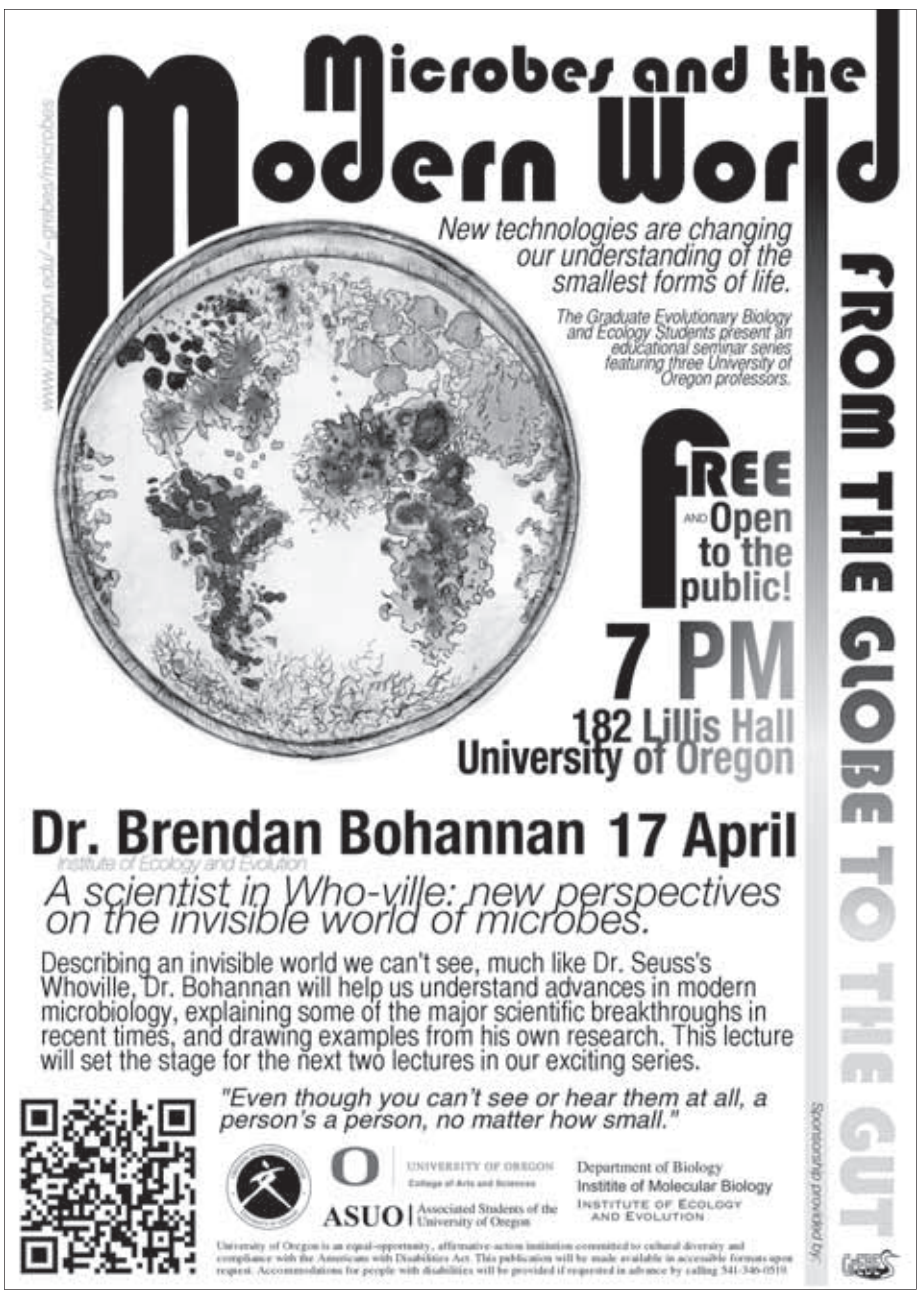

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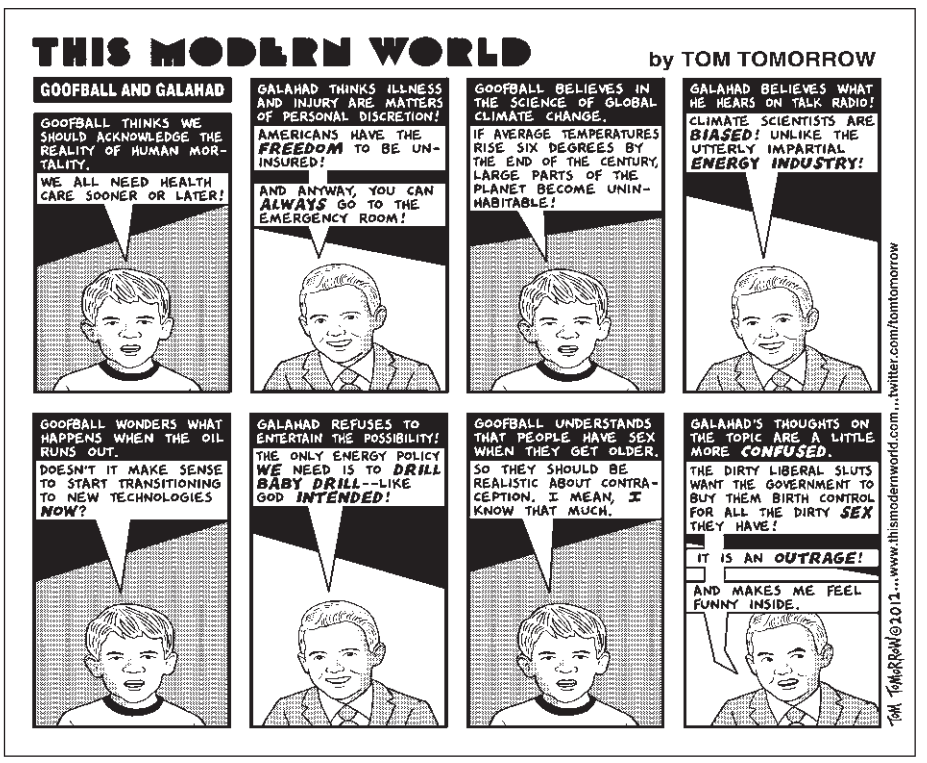

Letters TO THE EDITOR

WOW HALL RESPONDS

On April 5 *EW* published an unflattering letter ("WOW Hall Problems") and the present staff and board of the Community Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) would like to reply.

Since 1975 the WOW Hall has been operated by the nonprofit Community Center for the Performing Arts. In that time, there have been thousands of community members involved with the CCPA. Our history in the community is one of the most stalwart points of devotion common among the volunteers, staff and board. Our continuing contributions are part of the thriving cultural nucleus in Eugene. Protecting our ability to provide our resources to the community long into the future is where we stand united.

Contrary to an unfounded assertion, the CCPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Equal Employment Opportunity Act prohibits discrimination in hiring and promotion — which is not alleged. The law does not require that every job be advertised. Over the past two years, two staff positions were advertised, while others were filled by longtime volunteers who had been trained for the jobs.

It was suggested that the CCPA would possibly not survive a routine IRS audit. Nothing supports the claim. Carole Goerger, the CCPA bookkeeper for four years and also an employee of the CPA firm that's done our tax return the past two years, calls this an "inaccurate statement" not based on actual facts.

The CCPA recently established a financial reserve for unexpected expenses as well as seed money for future improvements. Our financial position has been and remains strong.

CCPA staff and board have been working on a large number of projects with people in the community to accomplish a lot of great things: writing a lesson plan and teaching a sound/light workshop; building a new booth at the Oregon Country Fair; providing shows, classes and workshops for all ages, incomes and musical tastes; training new volunteers; preserving heritage trees; working with neighbors on grant projects; and achieving all that while hitting our budget targets and making improvements to the WOW Hall every year!

Last month, hundreds of people had a wonderful time experiencing live music. We had a free Brain Awareness Expo put on by the UO Brain Development Lab. Author Charles Eisenstein offered an all-day seminar on "Sacred Economics." We also had dozens of people volunteer for two days of spring cleaning. Every month, you can be a part of something that matters at the WOW Hall.

We would absolutely love interested community members to consider volunteering at the WOW Hall and see first-hand what it's like. Come back and see for yourself how things are going. Members of the WOW Hall can become board members and by bringing your specialized experience, you can help to help make the organization even stronger. We always need help and welcome positive energy that is thoughtful and productive.

We, members of the community, are all working together to make decisions that we feel are best for the organization and the community overall.

Michael Zarkesh and
the CCPA staff and board

FARR'S OMISSION

In the March issue of the *Vagabond*, Eugene City Councilor Pat Farr has an article about the city's history of assisting the homeless, including the present task force, Opportunity Eugene. In fact, Opportunity Eugene began thanks to the initiative of a group called Occupy Eugene, which Farr and other city council members had voted to evict from their peaceful encampment at Jefferson and 7th.

From its inception, Occupy Eugene has been a haven for those living on the streets, people who routinely experience the heavy consequences of social and economic inequality. They assisted Occupy Eugene with their diversity, participation and knowledge of how to survive in the elements. Occupy Eugene assisted them by empowering their voices and installing food and medical tents to their benefit. Farr fails to mention in his article the work of the Occupy participants, community allies, and homeless persons that make up the task force and its potential.

Nicole Medema
Eugene