



NEWS DIGEST - February 29, 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2016 Legislative Session: Week 4 Overview

The Oregon Legislature neared the home stretch as the Joint Ways and Means Committee approved its major budget bill of the session. Please click [here](#) to view details.

As a short session year, the legislature does not pass a full budget as they would in the full session but makes a handful of budget adjustments. The budget bill, SB 5701, included \$4.25 million in general fund dollars for the rebuilding of Snyder Hall at Umpqua Community College as well as \$1.8 million for security staff, improvements to safety and security systems, and other costs resulting from the October 1<sup>st</sup> incident. The amount awarded was \$343,000 short of their ask. Moreover, language was included that community colleges can bring a safety and security ask next legislative session after the Governor's workgroup on campus safety

**March 10, 2016**  
OCCA Board Meeting  
Portland Community  
College - Sylvania  
Campus, Portland

**March 11, 2016**  
OPC Meeting  
Portland Community  
College - Sylvania  
Campus, Portland

**April 9-12, 2016**  
AACC Annual  
Convention  
Chicago, IL

**April 20, 2016**  
AOAT Student Scholar  
Event  
Salem Convention  
Center

and security makes their recommendations. Please click [here](#) for more details, see pages 28 and 29.

A handful of modest bills related to higher education passed through each house chamber throughout the week and as legislators continued in floor session Saturday. Some of those include:

- HB 4021: Requires State Treasurer and Higher Education Coordinating Commission to conduct study to explore approaches for lowering interest rates on student loans for students in Oregon.
- SB 1540: Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission, in consultation with Oregon post-secondary institutions of education, to conduct study to determine best method of increasing number of mathematics majors at Oregon universities.

Also this week, the Joint Committee on Ways and Means [awarded \\$5 million in Article XI-G bonds to create the Advanced Manufacturing Innovative District Building](#), which is an industry-driven partnership of which Portland Community College is a member.

The Committee also modified previously approved authorizations for five community college projects at Blue Mountain Community College, Columbia Gorge Community College, Linn-Benton Community College, Southwestern Oregon Community College, and Treasure Valley Community College. To view the specific technical changes please click [here](#), see page 5.

Additionally, the Committee appropriated [\\$4,025,000 of the SB 418 money](#) from last legislative session for transitional services and supports between secondary and post-secondary education as outline below:

**April 20-21, 2016**  
OPC Meeting  
OCCA Office, Salem

**May 3, 2016**  
AOAT Recognition  
Program  
Salem Convention  
Center

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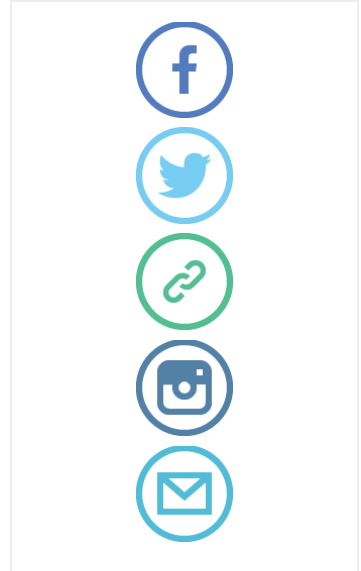
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	<u>General Fund</u> <u>Appropriation</u>
<b>Chief Education Office</b>	
Summer summit for high school and post-secondary staff including counselors and financial aid staff	\$ 300,000
Local collaboration between high school counselors and post-secondary advisors	\$ 700,000
<b>Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)</b>	
Community College support for improved Developmental Education models	\$ 600,000
Community College support for development and alignment of Career Pathways	\$ 600,000
Expansion of eMentoring for Oregon Promise students	\$ 120,000
Statewide expansion of FAFSA Plus	\$ 105,000
Subscription of Signal Vine connecting with students via two-way texting	\$ 100,000
Evaluation and tracking implementation of transitional supports and services in this bill	\$ 50,000
<b>Oregon Department of Education</b>	
License for College and Career Readiness counselor training modules	\$ 50,000
Expansion of AVID or similar program for high schools	\$ 1,400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,025,000</b>

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The legislature is currently scheduled to conclude on Wednesday, March 2.

Hearing schedule for this week:

Monday, February 29

8:30 a.m. – Senate Floor

[HB 4075](#): Replaces School Safety Hotline established by Department of Justice with statewide tip line established by Department of State Police for anonymous reporting of information concerning threats to student safety.

Tuesday, March 1

10:00 a.m. – Senate Floor

[SB 1586](#): Directs public universities and community colleges to increase voter registration access and information.

## The Underprepared Student

Nearly two-thirds of students who enter community college are underprepared and not ready for college-level work. They face significant challenges, yet they make a commitment to their education

and enroll in college. The 2016 national report released by the Center for Community College Student Engagement, "[Expectations meet reality: The underprepared student and community colleges](#)," is aimed at community college leaders, faculty, and staff to expanding knowledge about practices to help the underprepared student.

College readiness is the key to college completion, and this report sheds light on promising practices in the area of placement testing and developmental education. It also contains data on the difference between students' perceptions of their academic readiness and the reality of being underprepared when they enter college. The report ends with questions for community college leaders to consider in light of the [marked disconnect between students' desire to succeed and the reality of their outcomes](#).

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## Developmental Education Update

To read the latest edition of the Developmental Education Redesign Newsletter and learn what is happening in Oregon, please click [here](#).

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## Oregon Talent Council Grant Opportunities

The Oregon Talent Council's Round 1 competitive grant process (RFGP #16098s) is currently open with proposals due by March 11, 2016. The recent webinar slides that contain information and questions and answers about the grant is available on the Oregon Talent Council's website [here](#).

Moreover, the funding strategy for the remainder of the biennium was

approved at the last Council's meeting held on February 10. Those meeting materials can be reviewed [here](#).

The Council is anticipating the released of the Round 2 competitive funding opportunity near the end of March. As with the Round 1 grant, proposals for Round 2 funding must address one or most of the ten priority occupational clusters identified in the Oregon Talent Plan and will include the following primary uses:

- Industry/professional certifications and/or badges that increase worker proficiency or respond to regulatory changes
- Investments in delivery systems that expand reach, speed and ease of high demand training programs to rural or underserved parts of the state
- Efforts to pilot programs that recognize skills and experience gained in non-academic settings (e.g., application of military experience).

Round 2 funding will be open to Oregon's public and private higher education institutions, industry associations, Workforce Development Boards, and other non-profit accredited training bodies.

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## **Save the Date: All Oregon Academic Team Luncheon**

The 2016 All Oregon Academic Team Recognition Program will be held May 3, 2016 at the Salem Convention Center. Please save the date and join us in celebrating the achievements of our 2016 All Oregon Academic Team recipients.

*students a year, or about 1 in 11 Oregonians.*

*The OCCA Digest updates members and the public about recent news affecting community colleges and efforts by the association to enhance student success and workforce development.*

*Do you have links to local stories or other items of interest? Please forward them to [mjensen@occa17.com](mailto:mjensen@occa17.com).*

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