



OCCA DIGEST - April 22, 2016

OCCA STAFF

Sara Goldrick-Rab Meets with Oregon Community College Presidents

This week, [Sara Goldrick-Rab](#), professor of Educational Policy Studies and Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and founding director of the [Wisconsin HOPE Lab](#), met with Oregon's community college presidents to discuss college affordability. The major theme of the conversation was the disconnect between students' lives and the policies and practices affecting their education, especially when it comes to money.

Some of the questions discussed include the following:

- What are Oregon's goals surrounding student financial assistance, completion, enrollment, and leveling of inequality?
- How can progress effectiveness be assessed?
- To what extent and in what ways are the various forms of student financial assistance in Oregon effective (Pell, Oregon Opportunity Grant, Oregon Promise, etc.)?
- What are the strengths of Oregon Promise? What are the areas of weakness or concern? And, how might these be addressed?

Andrea Henderson
Executive Director
andrea@occa17.com

John Wykoff
Legislative Director
jwykoff@occa17.com

Karen Smith
General Counsel
ksmith@occa17.com

Megan Jensen
Director of Member Services
mjensen@occa17.com

Elizabeth Cox-Brand
Student Success and Assessment Director
elizabeth@occa17.com

Katie Archambault
Research and Communications Specialist
katie@occa17.com

Lisa Wolfson
Executive Assistant
lisa@occa17.com

Recommended readings:

- [*What We're Learning: SAP*](#)
- [*Increasing the Impact of Student Financial Aid: Three Recommendations for Financial Aid Administrators*](#)
- [*The Problem of College Students Without Reliable Housing*](#)
- [*The Real Price of College*](#)
- [*Improving Emergency Financial Aid Programs to Help Students Stay in College*](#)
- [*The Dark Side of College \(Un\)Affordability: Food and Housing Insecurity in Higher Education*](#)

Umpqua Community College Names New President

[Umpqua Community College Board of Trustees announced that it has hired Dr. Debra Thatcher as its new president](#), filling a position that has been most recently filled by interim president, Dr. Walt Nolte.

Dr. Thatcher is a research fellow at the State University of New York at Cobleskill, where she also spent two years as president.

Dr. Thatcher is expected to start in her new role on July 1, 2016.

Governor Brown State of the State Address

Governor Kate Brown gave the State of the State address on Friday, April 8 at the Portland City Club. The Governor shared a “snapshot” of

the past year and spoke of the progress the state has made and conveyed her vision for the future of the state.

A portion of the Governor's speech focused on higher education specifically. She spoke of the state's obligation to ensure Oregonians have access to higher education by making sure that college is affordable. The Governor noted that this past year, the state increased funding for higher education by 16 percent – the largest increase in the nation. Despite the large funding increase, the Governor said Oregon still has a lot of ground to make up.

Governor Brown also spoke about her commitment to opening the doors of opportunity to all Oregonian students by making college affordable and accessible. The Governor highlighted the changes to the Oregon Opportunity grants and the creation of the new Oregon Promise program, both of which are easing access and making higher education more affordable for thousands of Oregonians.

Governor Brown also spoke directly about the October 1 event and her commitment to making Oregon safer. In the February session, the Governor helped secure \$6 million to address the needs of Umpqua Community College following October 1. The funds will support enhancing the presence of security officers on UCC campus and to go towards facilities upgrades to make building more secure. In addition to allocating money to UCC, the Governor also spoke about forming the Campus Safety Working to develop recommendations that will enhance the safety of all of Oregon's college campuses, public and private. The work group will report back their findings to the Governor.

To read Governor Brown's full State of the State address, please click [here](#).

HECC/SBE Joint Meeting Update

Last week, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) held a joint meeting with the State Board of Education (SBE). Major topics discussed include: [accelerated learning](#), [math pathways](#), and [CTE/STEM](#).

To view the full agenda, please click [here](#).

Here is a link to the material presented: <http://www.oregon.gov/HigherEd/Pages/archives.aspx>

HECC Meeting Update

After the joint meeting with the State Board of Education, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) met independently to discuss a variety of updates and to approve several action items. One of the action items approved was the [adoption of rules on the Oregon Promise grant](#), with the caveat that the approved rules do not reflect the changes made in the short 2016 legislative session. The Oregon Promise rules will be further amended to get the GPA requirement that is in-line with federal financial aid policy in the grant.

SB 473 Work Group Concludes Work

A subcommittee of the Higher Education Commission (HECC) received the final draft of the SB 473 work group last week. Specifically, Senate Bill 473 required the HECC to convene a work group of representatives from community colleges to:

- Determine the best method for community colleges to

administer the collection of sexual orientation identification data that is provided voluntarily

- Determine the best method for community colleges to implement policies permitting enrolled students to use a preferred name on certain college documents
- Identify potential barriers to carrying out these practices.

The work group included representatives from the Oregon Student Association, the Oregon Community College Association, and representatives from various community colleges. The group looked at potential ways to fulfill the requirements of SB 473 and also identified potential obstacles for community colleges to implement it.

To read the draft report, please click [here](#).

HECC Student Success and Institutional Collaboration Subcommittee Meeting

Last week, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission Student Success and Institutional Collaboration Subcommittee met to discuss a variety of topics. The Subcommittee discussed the Accelerated Work Group [summary](#) and draft [standards](#); [Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Statewide Course Credit Policy for 2016-2017](#); and [SB 473](#) Work Group updates and reports from both the [community colleges](#) and the [universities](#).

Dev Ed Campus Lead Meeting

Team leads from each of the community colleges held their quarterly

meeting at the OCCA office on Friday, April 8th. Discussion focused on what supports from OCCA have been working to motivate and increase implementation efforts, challenges team leads face, and what technical assistance team leads would like to have in the upcoming academic year. There was also conversation regarding an evaluation of the process used during the dev Ed redesign work that will be conducted this spring by REL Northwest and the development of a dashboard to illustrate on which initiatives colleges have been working. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Cox Brand: elizabeth@occa17.com

Notable Community College Awards

Aspen Presidential Fellow

After a rigorous selection process, [Brian Kelly, vice president of college services at Lane Community College](#), has been awarded the prestigious [Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence](#). In its inaugural year, the Aspen Presidential Fellowship will engage a group of 40 leaders from around the country in an intensive, one-year, applied leadership executive program. The Fellowship aims to “develop a cadre of exceptional leaders who can transform community colleges to achieve higher levels of student success, while maintaining broad access.”

“Brian is already a proven leader having worked in both instruction and college services,” [said Mary Spilde, president of Lane Community College](#). “As a vice president he has led numerous efforts to transform the college. His commitment to Lane’s values and the community college mission is evident. He is an exemplary leader and this program will give him additional tools that will benefit Lane.”

Fellows will begin their program in July 2016 at Stanford University, with an anticipated completion in spring 2017. Applications for the second class of Fellows will be available by September 30, 2016. For more information, please click [here](#).

AAWCC Carolyn Desjardins CEO of the Year

Julie Huckestein, president of Chemeketa Community College, was named the 2016 recipient of the [Carolyn Desjardins CEO of the Year award](#) by the American Association for Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC).

This award is given in recognition for outstanding service and support to AAWCC. AAWCC is the leading national organization that champions women in community colleges and maximizes their potential. To read more about AAWCC, please click [here](#).

Oregon Talent Council Grant Recipients

The [Oregon Talent Council announced grant recipients for RFGP #16098s](#), which was open to Oregon's public higher education institutions and Oregon Health & Science University to prepare students and incumbent workers to be quickly productive in Oregon's high-demand occupations, as identified in the Oregon Talent Plan. This represents the first round of investment allocation of \$2 million approved by the Council in November, 2015.

Of the 23 proposals received, 11 passed the minimum requirements in the RFGP. These 11 proposals were reviewed and scored by an evaluation committee of industry professionals and two staff members at the Oregon Employment Department. After the review process, four

grants were awarded to the following institutions:

- Oregon Institute of Technology/Oregon Tech Information Technology \$340,783
- Mount Hood Community College Advanced Manufacturing \$453,129
- OHSU (and Oregon State University) Bioscience \$672,403
- Oregon State University (and Portland State University) Energy \$533,686

Request for grant proposals for Round 2 funding will be made available shortly.

Seismic Grant Recipients

The Seismic Advisory Committee announced the [receipts of the 2016 Seismic Safety Grant](#) from Business Oregon, and two community colleges received funding for seismic improvements.

- Lane Community College, Building 18 \$626,576
- Southwestern Oregon Community College, Randolph Hall \$624,550 and Coaledo Hall \$597,818

The [Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program](#) is a competitive grant program that provides funding for seismic rehabilitation of critical public buildings, particularly public schools.

Any application that was not funded this round will automatically be considered for funding in the next round. The next round begins July 1, 2016 and ends September 31, 2016. It includes \$125 million for schools.

ACCT Seeks Committee Members

The [Association of Community College Trustees \(ACCT\) is currently inviting member trustees to serve on ACCT Board Committees.](#)

Committees for 2017 will be formed prior to the first of the year. Member trustees must indicate interest in serving as an associate committee member for a one-year term by September 1, 2016. If interested in serving, you should submit the 2017 Associate Committee Interest Form and indicate committee preferences. Each request must also have a letter of nomination for the individual's board supporting the appointment to an ACCT committee.

ACCT Committees currently seeking volunteer members include:

- Diversity — The Diversity Committee ensures leadership for the involvement of historically underrepresented diverse populations within the governance activities of ACCT.
- Finance and Audit — The Finance and Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring executive compliance with fiscally related Policies and Bylaws, reviewing the annual budget and the financial audit, establishing procedures for the periodic audit of Association programs and services, and reporting to the Board of Directors.
- Governance and Bylaws — The Governance and Bylaws Committee is responsible to review resolutions related to the governance of the Association, amendments to the Bylaws, and the Board Policies.
- Member Communications and Education Committee — The Member Communications and Education Committee is responsible for evaluating and making recommendations to strengthen the Board's links with the membership; identifying issues that require member input; and recommending strategies to gather input.

- Public Policy and Advocacy— The Public Policy and Advocacy Committee is charged with reviewing public policy issues and recommending positions to Board of Directors.

To read more about the committees and their specific charge, please click [here](#).

Register today: All Oregon Academic Team Luncheon

The [2016 All Oregon Academic Team Recognition Program](#) will take place on May 3, 2016 at the Salem Convention Center. Please save the date and join us in celebrating the achievements of the 2016 All Oregon Academic Team recipients. [Click here to register!](#)

Program for the day of the event:

Presentation at Oregon State Capitol

Recognition by Governor Kate Brown and group photo in the Ceremonial Office

Arrival time: 9:30 a.m. • Photo time: 10:00 a.m.

900 Court St NE, Salem, OR 97301

Luncheon at the Salem Convention Center

Check-in time: 10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Award program and luncheon: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

201 Liberty St SE, Salem, OR 97301

National college campus security

summit to take place in Portland, Oregon

ACCT will hold a national college campus security summit in Portland, Oregon on June 13-14, 2016.

To view the draft agenda, please click [here](#).

*Each Oregon community college will receive **one free** registration!*

[REGISTER HERE!](#)



Hosted with:



With Support from:

BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*

What?

This summit is designed to assist community college board members, presidents and their leadership teams, and others in safeguarding the college while continuing on the path of improving student success and completion.

The one and half day summit will examine the following: preparing for a disaster, reacting to and implementing plans during a disaster, and recovery efforts, both short-term and long-term – all the while helping the college to stay committed to student success, completion, and equity.

The summit will also bring together community colleges' leadership teams to: review policies and systems that should be in place, promote a statewide approach to security preparedness whereby institutions proactively agree to provide assistance to other institutions within their state or region, and participate in disaster learning scenarios to teach effective strategies for managing such events.

Who should participate?

- Trustees
- Presidents
- Board Support Staff
- Senior Leadership Team
- Public Information Officers
- Safety/Security Officers
- State Association Staff

Please bring a copy of your Institutional Readiness Plan, if you have one

Where?

The summit will take place at the [Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront](#).

To receive the ACCT discounted hotel room rate of only \$169 per night, please click [here](#). The deadline to reserve your hotel room is Friday, May 27.

When?

Monday, June 13 and Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Registration

To register, please click [here](#).

ACCT is giving ONE FREE registration per Oregon college. To receive the free registration code, send an email to csimons@acct.org.

Fees:

ACCT Member – Individual: \$300

ACCT Member – Team (up to 5 people from a college):
\$1000

Non-ACCT Member – Individual: \$500

Non-ACCT Member – Team (up to 5 people from a college): \$1500

If you have any questions about the event, please contact

Christina Simons, Education Events Specialist at ACCT:

csimons@acct.org or 202-775-4462
