



## OCCA DIGEST - June 9, 2016

## OCCA STAFF

### Revenue Forecast Released

[The second quarter Oregon Economic Revenue forecast was released last week](#) and showed continued growth.

The state's economy is rapidly approaching full employment, a milestone that has not been seen since 2000. General Fund revenues have been tracking close to expectations to date, but the outlook for revenue growth during the upcoming biennium has become stronger. General Fund revenues are expected to total \$19.623 million in 2017-19 biennium, an increase of 8.9 percent from the prior period, and \$132 million above the first quarter forecast.

Following the release of the forecast, Senate Majority Leader Senator Ginny Burdick released this statement:

"Today's economic and revenue forecast speaks for itself. Job growth is going strong, with 5,000 jobs added to the economy every month. State revenue projections continue to grow. Oregon Senate Democrats remain committed to protecting our investments in education,

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public health and safety and supporting small businesses. We also are proud of our commitments to refund costs to local communities for fighting wildfires in rural Oregon, responding the Malheur Wildlife Refuge occupation and safety improvements in the aftermath of the tragedy at Umpqua Community College.”

Lisa Wolfson  
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The positive economic revenue outlook is welcome news as the community colleges work to develop the 2017 Legislative Ask for the Community College Support Fund.

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## Next Week in Portland: National Summit on Safeguarding College Campuses

ACCT will hold a national college campus security summit in Portland, Oregon next week Monday, June 13 and Tuesday, June 14, 2016. The two day summit will take place at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront.

For more information about the event, click [here](#). To view the agenda, please click [here](#).

If you have any questions about the event, please contact Christina Simons, Education Events Specialist at ACCT: [csimons@acct.org](mailto:csimons@acct.org) or 202-775-4462



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## **HECC Meeting Update**

This week, the full Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) met to discuss a variety of topics.

The Commission was given [updated numbers on Oregon](#)

[Promise applications](#):

- 19,468 applications submitted
- 13,960 applications reviewed as eligible
- 10,816 applicants had valid FAFSA
- 8,531 applicants listed at least one Oregon community college on FAFSA

Ben Cannon, Executive Director of HECC, and Dave Zerbe, Operations Director of HECC, presented the [Agency's Policy Option Packages](#), which consist of the Community College Support Fund (CCSF) and Public University Support Fund (PUSF). For the 2017-19 biennium, HECC is recommending the CCSF receive \$794,800,000 and the PUSF receive \$943,000,000 in

General Fund. The HECC Commission recommend agency staff continue to develop the Policy Option Packages using the framework presented. The Policy Option Packages will again be presented to the full Commission at the August meeting for final adoption.

[The Commission adopted additional accelerated learning standards.](#) Institutions offering high school-based accelerated learning programs will be expected to align during the 2016-17 academic year with one or more of these sets of standards: existing Dual Credit, proposed Sponsored Dual Credit, and Assessment-Based Learning Credit. To view the standards click [here](#).

[The Commission also adopted the House Bill \(HB\) 2525 Legislative Report](#) and will submit it to the Legislative Assembly by July 1, 2016. [HB 2525](#) directed HECC to align “processes” for students who transfer from community college to university, examine why some programs seem to take more than 180 credits to complete, and to develop a research plan to ensure greater ease of student transfer and student success. The final report reviews historical efforts in the state to address barriers to transfer efficiency and surveys the current community college to university system. The report concludes with a set of Principles and Recommendations to realign the state’s community colleges and universities’ transfer degree requirements as they are implemented in statewide degrees. To view the full report, click [here](#).

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## HECC Funding and Achievement Subcommittee Meeting Update

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission Funding and Achievement Subcommittee met this week to discuss upcoming funding needs for community colleges and universities for the 2017-19 biennium.

The [community college capital construction request list](#) was presented. The list comprises of three sections:

1. Safety and Security: \$15 million
  2. Capital Construction Article XI-G Bonds: \$84,496,990.50
  3. Deferred Maintenance: \$241,786,521.00
- TOTAL REQUEST \$341,283,512.50

HECC staff recommendation was to include this request in the Agency's budget request.

Patrick Crane, Director of the Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, also presented a couple of informational documents pertaining to Oregon community college funding and achievement: a document detailing [community college investments, enrollments and completions](#) and a document examining [community college investments and outputs](#). Of note, the data shows that completions per 100 full-time equivalent at the state's community colleges has increased significantly since 2007-08. Completions per 100 FTE has gone from 9.64 in 2007-08 to 22.58 in 2013-14.

[Future funding for the Oregon Opportunity Grant \(OOG\)](#) was also discussed. The initial staff budget

recommendation for OOG for the 2017-19 biennium is \$200,560,265. The current maximum OOG awarded is \$2,250. A 6.7 percent increase to account for the cost of inflation would result in a maximum grant of \$2,400. Even at this higher award level, the budget increase in the grant would enable the state to award funding to about 31,000 more students per biennium. The total students served would be about 104,450 per biennium.

The recommended Workforce Investment funding for the 2017-19 biennium is \$10.9 million.

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## **HECC Releases 2016-2020 Strategic Plan for Higher Education**

This week, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) released the [2016-2020 Strategic Plan](#) for higher education after a year of work and collaboration. The plan provides a foundation for preparing more Oregonians with the degrees, certificates, and training they need to succeed. HECC will take a lead role in convening partners to further align programming and supports to close achievement and opportunity gaps for underrepresented students and to improve connections between Oregon's education and workforce systems. The plan is also anchored by the Commission's [Equity Lens](#) and builds on the foundation laid out in the Commission's [Strategic Plan 2014-2015](#) that gives the HECC the directive to "steer and cheer" the higher education enterprise.

Neil Bryant, Chair of the HECC, said, “This plan addresses the complexity of the higher education system, the myriad obstacles student currently face, and the specific opportunities and levers the HECC has to change them. It is both a realistic and deeply optimistic plan for us to work together as a state so that all Oregonians meet their highest education and career potential, and have the opportunity to prosper in a global economy.”

The plan outlines six key priorities that will guide higher education funding and policy decisions within HECC’s authority:

1. Goal Setting: sharpening state higher education goals in specific areas, including for working-age adults, and better reporting our progress towards meeting them.
2. Public College and University Funding: supporting sustainable state funding linked to student success.
3. Pathways: simplifying and aligning student pathways from cradle to career.
4. Student Support: enhancing student success, safety, and completion.
5. College Affordability: limiting student costs associated with attending college in Oregon.
6. Economic and Community Impact: contributing to prosperous workforce, economy, and communities.

Ben Cannon, Executive Director of the HECC, said, “I am grateful to the campus leaders, students, business, community, agency staff, and government partners who

provided valuable input and expertise during our year-long development of this critical plan for the State of Oregon, and especially to the commissioners for their careful thought and vision. Throughout this process, we have seen a profound and shared commitment to educational excellence, opportunity, equity, and to real and sustainable progress, and I am deeply heartened for the future toward which we are navigating.”

To read the full report, please click [here](#). To read the executive summary, click [here](#).

To view the full press release from HECC, please click [here](#).

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## **Growth Mindset Seminar Held**

On Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Oregon community college faculty and staff participated in the “Cultivating a Growth Mindset” seminar at the Lane Community College Center for Meeting and Learning. Approximately 50 participants attended in-person and another 20 live-streamed the event online, representing ten Oregon community colleges. Presenters were Dr. Mary-Jo Apigo, West Los Angeles College, and Dr. Miguel Powers, Fullerton College. The seminar explored how incorporating growth mindset strategies directly into community college courses improves learning strategies and helps students respond to educational challenges. With growth mindset, students believe that intelligence can grow with effort and view challenges as learning opportunities. The recording

of the seminar, along with handouts distributed, will be sent to participants and posted on the OCCA website in an effort to inform others about growth mindset. If you would like more information about the seminar or growth mindset events in Oregon, contact Elizabeth Brand: [elizabeth@occa17.com](mailto:elizabeth@occa17.com).

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*Oregon's 17 community colleges are a vital part of the state's education system and serve roughly 313,000 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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