



OCCA DIGEST - January 27, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

2017 Legislative Session Begins Next Week

Lawmakers will begin their work for the 79th session of the Oregon State Legislature this Feb. 1st. Legislators face daunting task of addressing a roughly \$1.8 billion budget shortfall.

Legislators will now have to see if they can strike a balance between new revenue and cuts to programs like the state Public Employee Retirement System (PERS). A Major transportation package is also high on legislators' priority list.

Republicans and some business groups have said they will not consider a revenue increase until legislators address PERS, agree on a transportation package, or both.

As a full budget-setting session, legislators will be creating the 2-year budget for all state funded-programs as well as addressing a variety of policy issues.

February 1, 2017
2017 Legislative Session Begins

March 2-3, 2017
OPC Meeting
Chemeketa Community College, Salem

March 22-23, 2017
OCCA Legislative Summit
Salem Convention Center, Salem

March 23, 2017
OCCA Board Meeting
Chemeketa Community College, Salem

March 24, 2017
OPC Meeting
Chemeketa Community College, Salem

Bill Hearings Scheduled Next Week

Below is a list of bills up for hearings next week that are of interest to community colleges.

Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

Senate Education Committee

Public Hearing

Hearing Room C

[SB 55 INTRO](#)

Relating to the Oregon Promise program. Amends Oregon Promise program to remove prohibition on awarding more than \$10 million in grants per fiscal year.

Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

Senate Education Committee

Public Hearing

Hearing Room C

[SB 138 INTRO](#)

Relating to career and technical education; declaring an emergency. Requires Department of Education and Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish career and technical education pathways to permit students to easily progress from secondary school to public post-secondary institutions of education.

Co-Chairs Budget Released

The Co-Chairs of Ways of Means released their budget framework on Jan 19 and included a modest increase for community colleges and public universities from the Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB), which flat-funded both at their 2015-2017 funding level. The Community College Support Fund was at \$550 million for the previous biennium and was at the same funding level in the GRB. The co-chairs budget amounted to increase of \$29 million for all of higher education funding (including community colleges, public universities and state financial aid,) over the Governor's budget at \$1.991 billion and 1.962 billion respectively. This would likely translate into \$6-10 million more for the CCSF bringing into the \$556-560 million range.

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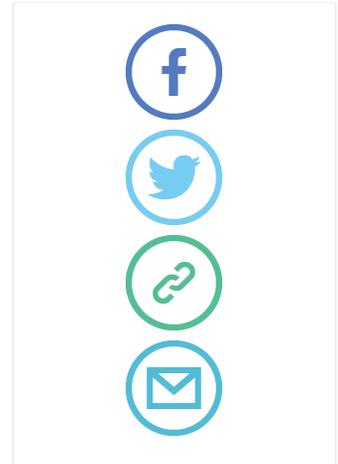
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Other difference in the budgets include:

- Reduction from GRB in Oregon Promise funding from \$40 million to \$20 million
- Reduction from the GRB in funding to Oregon State University to operate the state's Outdoor School Program from roughly \$40 million to \$20 million

To read the full Co-Chairs budget, please click [here](#). To read a summary of the budget, please click [here](#).



OCCA Board Meeting Update

The OCCA Board met January 19 in Salem. At the meeting, the board took the following actions:

- Approved the 2015-2016 OCCA audit
- Approved the 2016-17 OCCA annual goals
- Approved the 2016-17 OCCA legislative and regulatory policy positions
- Reviewed and adjusted positions on 2017 legislative bills

The next OCCA Board meeting will be held March 23 in Salem.

Student Success Center Network Meeting

The biannual gathering of states in the Jobs for the Future Student Success Center Network was held January 24th in Seattle. Executive Directors met during the morning and were joined by colleagues for the afternoon session. Future technical assistance opportunities from JFF to the Center and the Executive Directors was the primary focus of the day. For more information, contact elizabeth@occa17.com

State Policy Meeting Held

Jobs for the Future also hosted their biannual state policy meeting in Seattle January 25-26. The Oregon team was one of numerous state teams to hear about higher education policy projections in the new administration, stackable credentials and several other policy issues. For more information, elizabeth@occa17.com

OCCA Legislative Education Opportunity

Join OCCA for the "Legislative Process 101" webinar on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 11:00 am. Learn about the Oregon legislative process, how a bill becomes a law, and the work of OCCA during the legislative session.

This webinar will provide an overview of basics for anyone who has not experienced the legislative process in Oregon or for those who would like to brush up on their knowledge. Information on accessing the webinar can be found on our website [here](#).

OCCA Legislative Summit Registration Open

Registration for the OCCA Legislative Summit on March 22-23, 2017 at the Salem Conference Center, is now open! This is your opportunity to learn how to advocate effectively for your college and have conversations with legislative leadership and representatives from the Governor's office. You'll walk away from this summit with the tools you need to maximize your effectiveness during the 2017 legislative session.

Click [HERE](#) to register online for the 2017 OCCA Legislative Summit

Registration Fee: The registration fee is \$95 per person,

which includes lunch and dinner on March 22, 2017.

Registration Deadline: March 13, 2016

Hotel Room Availability: A block of hotel rooms has been reserved for summit participants at a rate of \$129 per night using the code "Oregon Community College Association". Please contact the Grand Hotel at 877-540-7800 by February 19, 2017, to reserve a hotel room with the discounted rate. After February 19, 2017, rooms may be available at the discounted rate but it is not guaranteed.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

11:00 - 11:30 a.m.: Check-In/Registration

11:30 – Noon: Welcome/OCCA Update

Noon - 1:00 p.m.: Luncheon

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.: Summit Sessions

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.: Hosted Reception

Reception hors d'oeuvres will be provided by students in the culinary arts programs at Southwestern Oregon Community College. Wine will be provided by the viticulture programs at Chemeketa and Umpqua Community Colleges.

Thursday, March 23, 2017

8:00 - 11:00 a.m.: Appointments with Legislators

REMINDER: Each college makes their own appointments with their legislators.

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 katie@occa17.com.

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