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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OCCA celebrates board members

SALEM, Ore. – January is National Board Member Appreciation Month, and Oregon Community College Association would like to extend its sincere gratitude to all of its board members from across the state, as well as to elected board members and trustees at each of Oregon's 17 community colleges.

OCCA is proud to have an amazing and dedicated board of directors, which consists of the president and a board member representative from each of the 17 community colleges (please visit <u>https://occa17.com/about/governance/occa-board/</u> for full list). In addition, OCCA is especially grateful for its hardworking and committed Executive Committee (please visit <u>https://occa17.com/about/governance/executive-committee/</u> for committee membership).

Oregon's community colleges rely on dedicated community members to serve on their boards of directors to help guide policy and administration so that colleges may serve students and communities in achieving their academic, career and personal goals. OCCA thanks these board members for their service to Oregon's community colleges.

"These hardworking individuals are volunteers yet commit a significant amount of time to serving their colleges and OCCA as elected board members," said Morgan Cowling, Executive Director of OCCA. "OCCA has a deep appreciation for these wonderful people who are so committed to helping students and their communities through their service."

OCCA Board members serve dual roles – they are both an elected board member for their local community college, as well as a representative from their college's board to serve as an OCCA board member. These committed board members not only put in many hours serving their local community colleges, but also spend time advocating for community college policy issues statewide with legislators and other stakeholders. With a commitment to equity, these individuals learn about and advocate for statewide issues, community college funding, and student success and help in the effort to increase awareness of the benefits of community colleges in Oregon.

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