



# Governmental Affairs Update

May 4, 2001

University of Oregon Office of Governmental Affairs

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## 2001 Oregon Legislature

### Ways & Means Education Subcommittee completes hearings on OUS budget

The 2001 session of the Oregon Legislative Assembly is more than halfway through its work. The Education Subcommittee of Ways and Means wrapped up hearings on House Bill 5524 – the operating budget bill for the Oregon University System – on Tuesday, April 10. The subcommittee is slated to revisit the budget and make its final recommendations to the full committee after May 15 when the May revenue forecast is received.

President Dave Frohnmayer testified before the subcommittee several times. Numerous legislators commented on his passion, eloquence and effectiveness in speaking on behalf of higher education. Also testifying before the subcommittee was UO Chemistry Professor Geraldine Richmond, who was recently named Outstanding Scientist for 2001 by the Oregon Academy of Science.

In March, Governor Kitzhaber released a revised budget that added back \$52.5 million to higher education – \$45 million

“Excellence follows excellence. People want to go where good things are happening.”

“Every day I am thankful for the quality of our faculty. I am thankful most of all for their loyalty...People have stayed because they have believed in the reinvestment that this Legislative Assembly made over enormous political opposition last session.”

*Excerpts from President Frohnmayer's testimony before the Ways & Means Education Subcommittee  
March 27, 2001*

to the OUS current service level and \$7.5 million to statewide public services. There is nothing official about the Governor's new proposal and the Legislature must still consider his original budget, but it does indicate a recognition of the public outcry in response to the \$96.1 million cut. University of Oregon advocates continue to be instrumental in putting pressure on the Governor and the Legislature to restore cuts in the higher education budget.

### Capital budget hearings to begin

The Ways & Means Education Subcommittee will soon begin consideration of HB 5525, the capital budget bill for the Oregon University System. Chancellor Joe Cox and Linda Swanson, Director of Capital Construction Planning & Budgeting for OUS, will testify before the subcommittee on May 9 and 10. While the Governor's proposed budget

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**Listen....**Audio archives of legislative committee hearings are available on the State Legislature's web site (requires an audio player on your computer). To hear President Frohnmayer's March 27 testimony before the Ways & Means Education Subcommittee, go to [http://www.leg.state.or.us/cgi-bin/list\\_archives.cgi?archive.2001sJWMED&Ways+and+Means+Subcommittee+on+Education](http://www.leg.state.or.us/cgi-bin/list_archives.cgi?archive.2001sJWMED&Ways+and+Means+Subcommittee+on+Education) and choose March 27; President Frohnmayer's testimony begins approximately 46 minutes into the hearing.

## Congress

### UO Goes to Washington, DC

The Office of Governmental Affairs continues to work with our Oregon delegation in Washington, DC, to secure federal funds for the University of Oregon. Our two congressional priorities this year are (1) to secure additional funding for our cognitive neuroscience initiative, known on campus as the Brain, Biology, and Machine Initiative, which will keep the University at the forefront of neuroscience research; and (2) to secure federal funds to expand the collections facilities at the Museum of Natural History; the museum's role as the state repository for all anthropological artifacts and specimens found on Oregon's public lands has created a deficiency in available storage space.

At the end of April, President Dave Frohnmayer led an action-packed trip to Washington, DC, meeting with every member of the Oregon delegation and the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, and was the featured speaker at the annual President's Reception for the Washington, DC chapter of the University of Oregon

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for higher education included no General Fund appropriations for new construction projects, the University of Oregon's request for bond authorization for a capital project at the School of Music has received considerable attention by legislative leaders. On May 3, Representative Ben Westlund (R-Bend), Co-Chair of the full Ways & Means Committee, sent a letter to the Chancellor specifically requesting that the OUS testimony before the Education Subcommittee include a presentation on the School of Music's capital project.

## Rally in support of higher education

On March 6, thousands of higher education advocates, including hundreds wearing green and yellow, gathered on the Capitol steps to show their support for higher education. Speakers included legislative leaders and Bill Swindells, Jr. representing alumni of the Oregon University System (UO graduate and member of the UO Foundation Board of Trustees). The UO contingent was the largest, loudest and most colorful of all OUS institutions. The UO's impressive presence at the rally was due to the collaboration of students, faculty, administration, classified staff and alumni, coordinated by the UO Alumni Association and the Office of Governmental Affairs. Highlights include:

- More than 2,500 people were in attendance with more than 500 from UO, representing students, faculty, parents and alumni.
- Six buses carried UO supporters to the rally, in addition to those who got to Salem on their own.
- A sea of green and yellow balloons greeted legislators, the media and our friends from other OUS institutions.
- A rousing performance by the UO's Green Garter band.

## UO Lobby Day

On April 3, alumni and Foundation advocates met with legislators to discuss higher education funding, followed by a President's Reception for legislators and advocates. Legislative leaders have acknowledged and appreciated the prolific presence of University of Oregon advocates at the Capitol this session. UO advocates have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to higher education through their calls, letters and presence in Salem. Thanks to all who have participated in advocacy activities this year.



Flanking the Oregon Duck in the Capitol on UO's April 3 lobby day are (left to right) UOAA Board members Gordon Hanna and Mary Jubitz, Senate Majority Leader and UO alum David Nelson (R-Pendleton), UO alum Representative Phil Barnhart (D-Eugene), Dave Frohnmayer and UO Foundation trustee Doug Ragen.



Rally in support of higher education, Capitol steps, Salem  
March 6, 2001



UO Alum and Foundation Trustee Bill Swindells, Jr.  
representing OUS alumni at the March 6 rally

## State legislation at a glance

### SB 14 and SJR 21 – Seismic Rehabilitation

On April 20, the Senate approved Senate Bill 14 by a vote of 26-0 and Senate Joint Resolution by a vote of 26-1, sending the measures to the House for consideration. SB 14 requires the OUS to complete seismic safety surveys on all buildings with a capacity of 250 or more, subject to the availability of funding through the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. SJR 21 is a constitutional amendment to be referred to the people for approval which, if adopted, would provide general obligation bond funding of rehabilitation of education buildings in school districts, community colleges, and OUS.

### SB 100 – Hope Scholarship Program

On April 26, the Senate Education Committee sent Senate Bill 100 to the Ways & Means Committee without a recommendation as to passage. As printed, the measure

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would provide a renewable merit scholarship for up to four years for any Oregon high school graduate who received a 3.0 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale. The measure did not contain either an appropriation amount or a revenue source.

### **SB 783 – Extended Options**

On April 24, the Senate Education Committee sent Senate Bill 783 to the floor with a do-pass recommendation on a 5 to 2 vote. The measure, the subject of months of work group sessions, amendments, and counter-amendments, would provide a means for Oregon high school juniors and seniors to attend and gain dual credit for successful completion of community college, OUS, or private, non-profit university academic course work, and have a portion of their K-12 state school support funds follow them to the post-secondary institution as tuition. As amended, the measure would grandfather in any existing secondary-post-secondary plan or agreement now in force, and allow the creation of any other parallel program in the future, as long as each school district also made the Extended Options program available. The Governor vetoed a similar bill in 1999.

### **HB 2015 – “Super Board”**

On April 24, the House Education Committee considered amendments to House Bill 2015 that reduced a 177-page bill that would have abolished the OUS in favor of a “College Opportunity Board” to a five-page measure that would unify the budgets of the Oregon Student Assistance Commission, the Community College budget, and the OUS budget process under a new Post-Secondary Education Opportunity Commission. The amendments also called for the Commission to make recommendations to the Governor on governance changes for both the OUS and community colleges.

The Committee heard opposition testimony from representatives of the OUS, the Oregon Community College Association, and Chemeketa and Lane Community Colleges. Testifying in favor of the intent of the amendments were the Oregon Business Council, the Oregon Independent Colleges Association, and Tom Imeson, speaking as a private citizen. After the hearing a work group was organized to address the issues raised. Amendments developed by the work group were adopted unanimously by the House Education Committee on May 3, with the community college association and OUS taking a neutral but cooperative approach. The bill was then sent to Ways & Means Committee.

### **HB 2342 – Small Business Development Centers**

House Bill 2342 would allow Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) to operate in state universities. The measure gives the Economic and Community Development Department the authority to make grants under an existing program to a community college district or service district, or if the OUS Chancellor and the Commissioner for Community Colleges concur, to a state university to form,

improve, and operate SBDCs. The measure passed the House on February 1 on a 59-0 vote, was given a “do pass” recommendation by the Senate Education Committee on April 26, and now awaits a vote by the full Senate.

### **HB 2344 – Racketeering**

House Bill 2344 has now passed both chambers. This measure would expand the list of crimes that can be included in racketeering to include, among other things, interference with animal research. HB 2344 passed the House on March 12 and the Senate on April 26, receiving all “yes” votes in both chambers.

### **HB 2961 – Admissions Tax**

House Bill 2961 would require institutions of higher education to collect taxes on admission for entertainment events that are imposed by certain cities and special districts. This measure, which was proposed by the City of Eugene to fund afterschool activities for children, is not expected to make it out of committee. No hearing has been scheduled.

### **HB 3429 – Establishes a Center for School Safety**

On April 26, Dr. Hill Walker, Co-Director of the UO’s Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior (IVDB), joined Representative Janet Carlson and Attorney General Hardy Myers in testifying in support of House Bill 3429. This measure would establish a Center for School Safety to be housed and staffed by the IVDB, providing a significant boost to the University and the State’s ability to attract grants and outside funds to further our already groundbreaking research in the area of violence and school safety. A work session on HB 3429 is scheduled for May 8.

### **HB 3580 – Sports Action Lottery**

University of Oregon advocates have been instrumental in helping to keep House Bill 3580 from having a significant financial impact on funding for the University. HB 3580 was introduced by Representative Randy Leonard (D-Portland). In its original form, the measure would have repealed the multiple-factor distribution formula in the current law and replaced it with a student FTE distribution mechanism, which would cost the UO nearly \$368,000 in Sports Action Lottery funds over the next biennium, or nearly \$3.7 million over the next ten years.

After hearing from proponents (PSU advocates) and opponents (OUS and UO) at an April 17 hearing, and after receiving dozens of calls and letters from UO advocates in opposition, the Committee took no action on the bill. On May 3, Rep. Leonard brought the bill back to the committee with amendments that remove its fiscal impact on the UO. In its current form, HB 3580 simply adds enrollment to the list of criteria that the OUS Board may consider in the allocation of Sports Action Lottery funds. The bill now moves to the House floor.

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## **HB 3910 – UCITA**

House Bill 3910 would create a Uniform Computer Information Transaction Act (UCITA) in Oregon. The measure is designed to provide a comprehensive set of rules for licensing computer information and software. The OUS opposes UCITA because of the burden it places on higher education and libraries. Others testifying against HB 3910 at an April 18 hearing included the UO's University Librarian Deborah Carver on behalf of the Oregon Library Association, the Oregon Attorney General's Office, Boeing Corp. and private citizens. The committee heard from many others who urged the committee to defer action on this measure this session in order that a careful and comprehensive review of UCITA be conducted during the interim.

## **HB 3941 – Early Success Reading Initiative**

House Bill 3941 creates the Early Success Reading Initiative and directs the University of Oregon to design, implement and monitor the initiative. This measure, which is supported by the University of Oregon College of Education, is expected to be moved to Ways & Means next week with amendments which would start the initiative with pilot programs in a specific number of Oregon school districts.

## **SCR 3 – UO 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

A resolution congratulating the University of Oregon on its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary has now been signed by the Governor after unanimously passing the Senate and House. Senate Concurrent Resolution 3 states, "we, the members of the Seventy-first Legislative Assembly, acknowledge the 125th anniversary of the University of Oregon, known internationally as a leading research university, and congratulate the University of Oregon on this important milestone." Those testifying in support of SCR 3 included Dave Frohnmayer, Duncan McDonald, Hope Pressmen (UO Foundation Board of Trustees) and Gordon Hanna (UOAA Board of Directors).

## **HCR 7 – Outstanding Football Seasons for UO and OSU**

House Concurrent Resolution 7, which congratulates the University of Oregon and Oregon State University football teams for their outstanding 2000-2001 seasons, has passed the House and is now awaits a vote by the full Senate. At the House floor session when HCR 7 passed, UO starting offensive linemen Jeff Austin and Ryan Schmid were in attendance and were officially recognized by Representative Vicki Walker (D-Eugene).

## **HCR 8 – In Memoriam: Paul Olum**

House Concurrent Resolution 8 honors the late Paul Olum, 13<sup>th</sup> president of the University of Oregon, serving from 1980-1989. The resolution states, "we, the members of the Seventy-first Legislative Assembly, mourn the passing of Dr. Paul Olum, extend our condolences to his family and express our sincere appreciation for a man who lived a remarkable life and touched the lives of many." Provost John Moseley testified before a House committee in support of this resolution. HCR 8 now awaits action by the full House.

## **Heading to Washington, DC or Salem?**

The Office of Governmental Affairs serves the University of Oregon community, working to ensure that students, faculty, researchers, programs and facilities get the support they need. Please let us know if you are planning a trip to Washington, DC or Salem that may include meetings with elected officials or agency staff. We can help coordinate meetings, draft letters, and enhance your efforts. Knowing about your efforts will also help us in our own governmental and advocacy work on behalf of the university.

## *UO goes to Washington, DC continued from page 1....*

Alumni Association (UOAA). Governmental Affairs staff Michael Redding and Betsy Boyd accompanied Frohnmayer and were responsible for coordinating the meetings.

A highlight of the trip was a meeting with Representative Bill Young (R-Florida), powerful chair of the House Appropriations Committee, to discuss the Brain, Biology and Machine Initiative. Chairman Young's offer of support for our \$6 million request is by no means a guarantee of funds, but certainly a positive beginning. On May 1, a letter signed by the entire Oregon delegation was delivered to Chairman Young urging his support of this request.

Redding and Boyd extended their stay in Washington, DC to follow up with congressional staff, to meet with officials from the Association of American Universities (AAU) and National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), to meet with Department of Defense officials regarding the Brain, Biology and Machine Initiative, to attend a reception for Members of Congress and their staff hosted by the DC Chapter of the UO Alumni Association, and to attend the annual Oregon State Society dinner, which is an opportunity for Oregonians based in Washington, DC to gather and support a good cause. The Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross was the beneficiary of this year's dinner. Ann Curry of NBC's Today Show and graduate of the University of Oregon School of Journalism, was the featured speaker at the dinner.

## **President Bush releases budget**

President George W. Bush released a budget blueprint in February, and released his first detailed budget on April 9. The budget allocates the largest increases in discretionary budget authority in FY2002 to two functions: (1) national defense and (2) education, training, employment, and social services.

Specifically, the Education Department would receive an increase of 11.2 percent and the Defense Department would receive an increase of 10.6 percent over FY2001 levels. As the budget attempts to pay for the \$1.6-trillion tax cut and to keep the increases in discretionary spending at four percent above the FY2001, a number of other functions and agencies, including agriculture, are slated for decreases.

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The FY2002 Bush budget proposes to increase the overall appropriations level of the Pell grant program by \$1 billion to \$9.76 billion. Because the increase would be needed to partially offset both a shortfall in the program last year and an unexpected increase in the level of participation, the extra funds for Pell called for in the budget would only increase the maximum Pell grant by \$100, to \$3,850. The higher education community will seek to increase the maximum award by \$600 in FY2002.

The Administration proposes an increase of \$50 million for the TRIO program, to \$780 million. Some higher education advocates believe this is a nominal increase that represents level funding.

The Administration proposes level funding for the following programs:

- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program (SEOG) — \$691 million
- Perkins — \$160 million
- Federal work-study — \$1.011 billion
- Leveraging Education Assistance Partnership (LEAP) — \$55 million
- Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) — \$31 million
- Javitz Fellowships — \$10 million.

The budget proposes to expand a loan forgiveness program for math and science teachers who teach in low-income communities from \$5,000 to a maximum of \$17,000. The Bush plan also calls for an increase of \$15 million in the Aid for Institutional Development programs.

The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) received \$146.7 million appropriations in FY2001. The Bush budget requests \$51.2 million for the program in FY2002. The decrease is attributed to a delineation of \$115.5 million of the \$146.7 million appropriated last year as one-time appropriations for special projects. In comparison, the program was funded at \$75 million in FY2000.

## **President Bush's proposed budget at a glance**

### **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**

Funded at \$120.5 million in FY2002, virtually level-funding the agency. The budget would provide \$104.9 million for grants and administration while the matching grants account would be funded at \$15.6 million.

### **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

Funded at \$23.04 billion, an increase of \$2.74 billion or 13.5 percent. The NIH would need to receive an increase of approximately \$4.1 billion next year to double its budget by FY2003. The NIH will emphasize four areas of research in FY2002: genetic medicine, clinical research, infrastructure and enabling technologies, and health disparities. With its budget, the NIH would seek to fund 9,158 new research

project grants (RPGs), the same number as FY2001. The NIH expects a total of 36,143 RPGs to be funded in FY2002.

### **National Science Foundation (NSF)**

Funded at \$4.5 billion, which is an increase of \$56.1 million or 1.3 percent. The higher education community continues to seek a doubling of NSF funding in five years to maintain parity with NIH's increases. The Research and Related Activities account, by far the largest within the agency, would be funded at \$3.33 billion in FY2002, a decrease of \$15.65 million, or 0.5 percent. Under the Bush budget, the Education and Human Resources account would be funded at \$872.41 million, an increase of 11.0 percent. The Major Research Equipment account would receive a cut of \$25.03 million, or 20.6 percent.

### **Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science**

Funded at \$3.16 billion, an increase of 0.1 percent. Programs of interest include: High Energy Physics (HEP) shifts significant funding for universities to the laboratories; HEP would be funded at \$721.1 million, an increase of \$9.1 million, or 1.3 percent; nuclear physics would be level-funded at \$360.5 million; biological and environmental research programs would be funded at \$442.97 million, a decrease of \$39.55 million, or 8.2 percent; basic energy sciences would be funded at \$1.00 billion, an increase of \$13.0 million, or 1.3 percent.

Additional information about the Administration's budget is available from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2002/budget.html>.

*Source: National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC).*

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