



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Date: May 5, 2009

To: Professor Paul van Donkelaar, Senate President
Professor Peter Gilkey, Senate Vice President

From: Frances Dyke, Vice President Finance and Administration *FD*

Copies: Dave Frohnmayer, President
Jim Bean, Senior Vice President and Provost

Re: Motion US 09/09-8 Concerning Transparency of University Financial Transactions

The above mentioned motion "directs the University of Oregon Administration to establish a publically accessible, on-line budget reporting system at the University of Oregon by 1 September 2009 that will allow users to track current and retroactive individual university expenditures as is currently done at our sister institution Oregon State University on their budget reporting website."

This motion / request to the administration is timely as we enter the strategic budgeting process. In February 2007 a task force recommended that the UO move ahead to develop a robust management information reporting system. Development requires a significant amount of financial and staff resources and has not been funded to date. The interest generated around the current senate motion suggests it may be time to revisit funding for that project.

Since learning of this motion I have had the opportunity to discuss the request with Don Harris, vice provost, information services and with my counterpart at the Oregon State University, vice president Mark McCambridge.

It is my understanding from my conversations with OSU's vice president that the web based report was developed some years ago and runs off their financial data warehouse. In preliminary discussions with Don Harris it appears the UO can generate a similar reporting system and the administration is prepared to support this initiative.

I have asked Don Harris to provide a cost estimate to have this tooled up and running by September 1, 2009. This estimate range is currently \$22,000 to \$28,000, depending on whether new hardware is needed for the project. I do not have a firm project deadline at this point but will provide it when it is available.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

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The administration believes providing this type of report will be a useful supplement to the series of reports that have been posted on the budget web site for a number of years (<http://brp.uoregon.edu/>) and also on the institutional research web page (<http://ir.uoregon.edu/>).

Please let me know if you have additional questions.