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## PRESS RELEASE

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## HECC Statement on Closure Plans of Marylhurst University

*Salem, Oregon* | Statement by Ben Cannon, Executive Director of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission:

"We are deeply saddened at the planned closure of Marylhurst University, a school that has for 125 years provided postsecondary education to generations of Oregonians, and has served as a collaborative partner within the state's higher education community. We have been in touch with Marylhurst University leaders, and appreciate the University's efforts to help current students complete their degrees, as well as to support others within the campus community in navigating their next steps. Students, staff and faculty are likely to have many questions in the days and weeks to come, and we encourage them to take advantage of the resources and support that Marylhurst is making available to them.

Because Marylhurst University is legally exempt from the HECC's oversight and approval processes, the HECC has limited formal authorities related to this closure. That said, the HECC stands ready to support Marylhurst and its students in every way we can, including to help facilitate transfer options for students to complete their degrees. In addition to the other ways that it supports students, staff, and faculty through the transition, we are confident that Marylhurst University will meet its statutory obligations for the appropriate disposition of student records and the refund of any tuition that may be owed to students as a result of the closure (ORS 348.605)."

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*The State of Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) envisions a future in which all Oregonians—and especially those whom our systems have underserved and marginalized—benefit from the transformational power of high-quality postsecondary education and training. For more information, go to [www.Oregon.gov/HigherEd](http://www.Oregon.gov/HigherEd)*