EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 07 – 13

POST-SECONDARY QUALITY EDUCATION COMMISSION

Oregon’s economic future depends on a well-educated and well-trained workforce and citizenry. Oregon’s community colleges are the primary providers of workforce training for both emerging and adult workers. Oregon’s community colleges provide an entry point for students interested in workforce training, professional certificates or two or four-year degrees. Oregon’s Universities provide access to four-year and advanced degrees, in addition to providing vital research used by Oregon businesses.

State support for the post-secondary education system in Oregon has steadily eroded since the passage of Ballot Measure 5 in 1990.

State funding for the post-secondary system comes primarily from the State general fund and student tuition. These sources are volatile, and state funding for the post-secondary education system needs stability.

State policymakers do not have adequate tools to allow them to determine the reasonable costs of providing a quality post-secondary education for Oregonians. In conjunction with the Governor’s office, members of the education community are working to lay the foundation for understanding the needs of the post-secondary education system.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DIRECTED:

1. The Post-secondary Quality Education Commission is hereby created to help direct the work necessary to complete a Post-secondary Quality Education Model to be used by state policymakers.

2. The Commission members shall be appointed by the Governor, after consultation with the Commissioner of Community Colleges and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. The chair shall be appointed by the Governor, after consultation with the Commissioner of Community Colleges and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System.

4. The Commission shall meet at the call of the chair. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum to do business.
5. The Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development and the Oregon University System shall jointly staff the Commission.

6. Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their activities as members of the Commission, but may be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in the attending Commission business pursuant to ORS 292.495(2).

7. The Commission shall:

   a. Identify key issues to address in completing a model that identifies the particular needs of Community College and University students;

   b. Study the impact of the use of part-time faculty and graduate student employees on program quality and student success, and recommend a consistent definition to describe adjunct, contingent and part-time faculty;

   c. Determine the key values encompassing the mission of post-secondary education in Oregon including access to education, educational quality, student success, professional compensation, research, service, innovation, technical/career and adult basic education;

   d. Solicit input from educators, education policy experts and others about the elements of the model;

   e. Solicit public input regarding educational priorities for use in developing the model;

   f. Develop the model based on research, data, public input and experience; and

   g. Communicate with stakeholders regarding model development.

8. The Commission may establish subcommittees as necessary to assist in carrying out its work.

9. The Commission shall implement a work plan that will allow for completion of the model pilot in sufficient time to be used by the Governor in developing the 2009-11 Governor’s Recommended Budget for the Postsecondary portions of the Education Enterprise.
Done at Salem, Oregon this 28th day of August, 2007.

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Theodore R. Kulongoski
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

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Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE