

May 31, 2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Dear HECC members:

This letter is in support of OSU Cascades and to request your support the branch campuses' capital request for the continued and needed expansion of the Bend campus. This capital request to do site preparation and infrastructure work on Phase 2 of the campus, along with construction of the next academic building and a student success center is a critical next step for building out the region's long-anticipated four-year university. You probably have already been told many times, but the establishment of a four-year university in our part of the state has been THE top regional priority for more than 30 years.

Out of the ashes of the Great Recession, Central Oregon has once again emerged as the fastest growing region in the state and among the most vibrant economies in the U.S. Importantly, it is also greatly diversified in its employment base – more than ever in its 100+ year history. With unemployment rates dipping even below Oregon's statewide average (which has only happened a few times in the past 30 years), meeting the needs of employers and residents is increasingly difficult. While steady population growth, led by strong in-migration has been a source of new talent and expertise within the workforce, "growing our own" highly skilled employees through higher education is essential for continued economic prosperity.

To this end, OSU-Cascades has and continues to work closely with local businesses and industry to develop degree programs to that serve our region, such as energy systems engineering, computer science, business, and hospitality management. Thanks to outstanding local leadership of Becky Johnson and her team as well as great support and vision from OSU President Ed Ray, new programs such as mechanical engineering, biosciences, and nursing (in partnership with COCC) are in the process of being to meet market demand. These degree programs will require additional space on the new campus.

The state recognized Central Oregon's need for university education when it established OSU-Cascades in 2001. It expected the campus to grow and contribute to the prosperity of the region. Remarkably, since that time the tri-county area alone has added 53,000 people (33% growth), and the need for university education has grown accordingly. We hope that the criteria HECC uses to prioritize capital investments will recognize the critical role that the university plays in providing access for residents of this historically underserved region of Oregon to higher education.

We understand that the funds for expansion of a new university cannot come out of the same funds that have traditionally been allocated to the other seven universities.

The need for higher education has increased in Oregon, especially in Central Oregon, and the state needs to increase the overall funding in order to meet those needs. We hope that HECC will recognize the critical importance of higher education to the health and well-being of our region, and will recommend the funding needed for the expansion of OSU-Cascades.

We appreciate your leadership on this important issue and the opportunity to provide our perspective.

Sincerely,



Roger J. Lee
Executive Director



Jon Stark
Sr. Manager



David W. Scheider
CEO/General Manager



June 6, 2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission
755 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear HECC members:

We are writing in support of Oregon State University – Cascades and asking you to support their capital request for the next phase of campus expansion. The requested funds will be used for site preparation and infrastructure on 46 acres adjacent to the first phase of OSU-Cascades, and for constructing the next academic building and a student success center. These investments will allow OSU-Cascades to continue to grow and serve the Central Oregon region.

Central Oregon is the fastest growing region in the state, and its economy is diversifying rapidly. Meeting workforce needs is increasingly difficult, and “growing our own” highly skilled employees will allow for continued economic prosperity in our region. OSU-Cascades has worked with local businesses and industry to develop degree programs to serve our region, such as energy systems engineering, computer science, business, and hospitality management. New programs such as mechanical engineering, biosciences, and nursing (in partnership with COCC) will be added to serve our region, and will require additional space on the new campus.

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Thank you for your leadership and support of higher education.

Sincerely,



Julie Brinks, General Manager
BendBroadband



Shay Mikalson, Superintendent
Bend-La Pine Schools



John Rexford, Superintendent
High Desert Education Service District



Dan McCarthy, Administrator
High Lakes Health Care



Kim Gammond, Communications & Public Affairs Director
Central Oregon Association of REALTORS



Gardner Williams, Partner & Principal Broker
Compass Commercial Real Estate



Christopher Dent, President
DENT Instruments



Robert Schluter, President
Element 1 Corp (dba e1)



Bill Moseley, CEO
GL Solutions



Harold Ashford, Owner
Harold Ashford & Associates, CPA



John McLeod, Interim General Manager
Mt. Bachelor ski area

William R. Anderson

William R. Anderson, CEO
Mid Oregon Credit Union



Rita L. Hansen, CEO
Onboard Dynamics, Inc.



Jeff Robberson, President
Robberson Ford



Josh Lau, President
Pequot LLC



Todd Taylor, President & CEO
Taylor Northwest LLC



William Smith, President
William Smith Properties, Inc.

5/31/2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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Thank you for your leadership and support of higher education.

Sincerely



Christy McLeod
Chief Business Development Officer
Bend Memorial Clinic



5/31/2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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Thank you for your leadership and support of higher education.

Scott Huntsman
President



5/31/2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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Thank you for your leadership and support of higher education.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dallas H. Stovall".

Pres/CEO
Bright Wood Corp.
Madras OR, 97741
541-475-2243
Dallas Stovall



5/31/2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Dear HECC members:

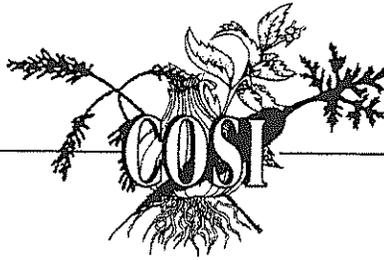
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06/01/2016

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Thank you for your leadership and support of higher education.

Best Regards,

Mike Weber – Managing Partner of Central Oregon Seeds, Inc.

CENTRAL OREGON SEEDS, INC.

1747 NW Mill Street
Madras, OR 97741

Phone (541) 475-7231
Fax (541) 475-7233



FERGUSON WELLMAN
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

June 3, 2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Dear HECC members:

We are writing in support of Oregon State University – Cascades and asking you to support their capital request for the next phase of campus expansion. The requested funds will be used for site preparation and infrastructure on 46 acres adjacent to the first phase of OSU-Cascades, and for constructing the next academic building and a student success center. These investments will allow OSU-Cascades to continue to grow and serve the Central Oregon region.

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Thank you for your leadership and support of higher education.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Kralj
Principal

Investment Excellence • Lifelong Relationships

5/31/2016

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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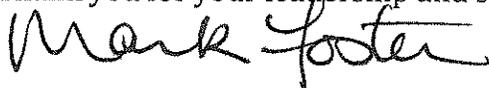
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Mark Foster
President
Keith Manufacturing Co.
Madras OR





TETHEROW
BEND OREGON

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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Sincerely,

Alan Van der Veld
MANAGING PARTNER