



## OCCA Newsletter – May 2, 2011

### 2011 All-Oregon Academic Team

The annual OCCA 2011 All Oregon Academic Team (formerly Student Scholar) award ceremony took place in the Governor's ceremonial office at the Oregon State Capitol on April 21. The scholars received a medal and were congratulated personally by Governor John Kitzhaber. The students were then honored on the House and Senate floors. After the Capitol ceremony, the students and their guests attended a luncheon at the Salem Convention Center, where they were recognized by the community college presidents. Three of the forty award recipients, who were selected from over 385,000 students who attended Oregon community colleges this year, made brief presentations about their experiences and goals. Oregon public and private colleges and universities have made available a minimum \$1000 scholarship to all award winners. To view a list of the All-Oregon Academic Team, click [here](#).

Fredrick Olson, a student at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, was chosen as Oregon's New Century Scholar. The New Century Scholar program honors the top scoring student from each of the 50 states in the Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team program. Each scholar receives a \$2,000 stipend. Mr. Olson and his fellow winners were recognized at the American Association of Community Colleges' convention in April in New Orleans, Louisiana.

### Legislative Update

#### SB 338 - Veterans Tuition Waivers

The House Committee on Veterans Affairs heard testimony on SB 338-A this week, which directs community colleges to form a task force to align tuition waivers for spouses and dependents of veterans with a similar program offered by the Oregon University System. Blue Mountain Community College President John Turner and John Wykoff, OCCA Legislative Director, testified on behalf of colleges explaining that all seventeen colleges currently had such waiver programs. The committee will take up the bill again after amendments to clarify

#### Road Show Budget Hearings

The final of four public budget hearings held around the state will take place at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport on May 6 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. The legislature's Joint Ways and Means Committee began holding these hearings during the last session to get input about the state budget from Oregonians who cannot attend legislative hearings in person.

#### Legislative Testimony Update

The Legislative Fiscal Office has created a new email address for people wanting to submit written testimony related to the State of Oregon budget. The email address is intended for testimony that is general in nature about the state budget and its programs:

[waysandmeans.budget@state.or.us](mailto:waysandmeans.budget@state.or.us)

#### Legislative Media Coverage

Live and archived video and audio coverage of all legislative proceedings, including committee hearings, Senate and House floor sessions and news conferences, can be found on the Legislature's [Audio/Video](#) website page or on OCCA's [2011 Legislative Session](#) page.

#### OCCA Member Directory Update

An updated community college directory is available for download on the OCCA website. Click [here](#) for the OCCA homepage (directory button on the right side of the page) or click [here](#) to view and save the PDF member

language in the bill are drafted.

### **Community College Capital Construction Projects**

The House Education Committee heard testimony Wednesday on the capital construction requests for community colleges and the Oregon University System. While bills for funding of capital construction projects will be worked in the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction, the hearing this week is likely to be the only public hearing geared towards looking at the projects in detail. Presidents and administrators from colleges across Oregon presented their requests for capital construction projects serving a variety of needs.

The PowerPoint presentation of tier-one capital projects presented to the committee can be found on our website [here](#).

## **Summit on Community Colleges**

The fourth regional White House-Department of Education Summit on Community Colleges was held on April 15, 2011, in San Diego. Dr. Jill Biden initiated the summits as a way to discuss the role of the nation's community colleges in assisting the economic recovery effort and in reaching President Obama's goal of having the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by the year 2020.

The summit's emphasis was on the role community colleges play in helping veterans gain the skills and education they need to succeed when they transition to civilian jobs. Speakers included Dr. Martha Kanter, Under Secretary of Education; Dr. Constance Carroll, Chancellor of the San Diego Community College District; and Dr. Jack Scott, Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

Roberto Rodriguez, Special Assistant to President Obama for Education, presented the keynote address on the scope and purpose of plans to invest in the nation's community colleges. Camille Preus, Commissioner of Oregon Department of Community Colleges & Workforce Development, and Dr. Preston Pulliams, President of Portland Community College, led two of the many breakout sessions held during the summit. Dr. Mary Spilde, President of Lane Community College and former chair of the American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors, provided closing remarks, noting that the action agenda needed to include ideas and practices that were scalable, affordable, practical, and successful.

The webcast of the summit can be found [here](#).

directory directly.

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Oregon Presidents Council**

May 12-13 2011  
OCCA Office, Salem

#### **OCCA Board Meeting**

May 13, 2011  
Salem, Oregon

#### **State Board of Education**

May 19, 2011  
Salem, Oregon

#### **State Board of Education**

June 23-24, 2011  
Salem, Oregon

#### **Executive Committee Retreat**

July 11, 2011  
OCCA Office, Salem

#### **AAWCC Summer Conference**

July 14, 2011  
Oregon Garden, Silverton

#### **OCCA Board Training**

July 18, 2011  
OCCA Office, Salem

#### **OPC Retreat**

August 7-10, 2011  
Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel

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site: <http://www.occa17.com>

Archived copies of our newsletters  
can be found [here](#).

Find a link to committee hearings for  
OCCA-tracked bills, updated weekly,  
on our [home page](#) under **Hot Issues**.

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