



## OCCA Newsletter – May 27, 2011

### Capital Construction Update

Thursday evening, community colleges were invited to testify before the Capital Construction Subcommittee of Ways and Means Committee on their priority one capital construction list. Given the short notice of the hearing, only a few colleges were able to appear. The committee was presented with the list along with PowerPoint slides highlighting each project.

Joanne Truesdell, Clackamas Community College president, led the presentation and spoke about both the impact of the Clackamas project on the local economy and community colleges' need for a capital investment from the state. Senator Devlin (D-Tualatin) inquired whether community colleges prefer capital money or operating money. Truesdell explained the need for both types of state support to community colleges. She was joined by Cheryl Roberts, Chemeketa Community College president, Javier Ayala from Umpqua Community College, and Brett Rowlett from Lane Community College, who each explained the merits of their projects and urged the committee's support. The material presented to the committee can be found on our website [here](#).

Legislative leadership has not yet committed to funding capital construction and heavy lobbying is still necessary at this point to move the projects forward. If you have a project on the list, please contact your legislators urging support.

### Education Design Team Meeting

The Governor's Education Design Team met Thursday, May 26. Much of the meeting was spent discussing a preliminary draft report of their work, though the report still has significant areas to be defined around the concept of an outcomes based budget. The team also heard an update from the early learning team.

### National News in Education

On May 26, the Senate failed to pass four competing fiscal year 2012 budget proposals. It is likely that the House and Senate will not be able to agree on a resolution for fiscal year 2012 and will have to pursue the appropriations process separately,

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) is working to gather support for maintaining the maximum Pell Grant award at \$5,550. Read more about these issues on the [ACCT web site](#).

### DJC Building Awards



Clatsop

Community College's Jerome Campus Redevelopment project won first place in the "Public Buildings \$15.1M-\$50M" category of the Daily Journal of Commerce's TopProjects awards. Read more at the DJC web site [here](#).



Lane Community College also placed first in the "Public Buildings \$5.1M-\$15M" category for its Health and Wellness Center. Read more about the project [here](#).

### OCCA Member Directory Update

## Legislative Update

### HB 3670 - Oregon Opportunity Grant for For-Profit Colleges

The House Rules Committee heard HB 3670 this week, which would create an account within the Oregon Opportunity Grant that could receive both public and private dollars to go toward Opportunity Grants in the for-profit education sector. Currently the Oregon Opportunity Grant cannot be used at for-profit institutions.

OCCA opposes the bill and Rep. Brian Clem, a former Student Assistance Commission Chair, testified in opposition to the bill, arguing that the for-profit colleges do not need legislation to create a scholarship fund with private dollars. He also urged the committee not to pass the bill due to many reported problems within the for-profit education sector. The committee did not vote on the legislation.

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 directory directly.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### 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

#### OCCA Conference

October 27-29, 2011  
Salishan Lodge, Gleneden Beach

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