

To: XXX, President of the Faculty Senate  
From: XXX, Chair of the Board of XXX Community College  
Date:

As you know, the Board of XXX Community College is committed to free and open communications among the various constituents of our college. You and the members of the group you were chosen to represent are an important part of our decision making process. We have before us a challenge and an opportunity that I believe will serve us well if we embrace it in the spirit of providing powerful solutions for Oregon's future.

Governor Ted Kulongoski, with the guidance of the Oregon Business Council, has set an ambitious goal for Oregonians' post secondary education. The goal states that by 2025 (just 18 years from now) 40% of adult Oregonians will have a bachelor's degree or higher, another 40% will have a post-secondary professional certification or an associates degree, and the remaining 20% will have a high school diploma as the highest level of education. This goal is ambitious because of its distance from our current standing and because most citizens are not currently aware of the need for that level of attainment.

We might. I suppose spend time discussing whether or not the Governor's goal is realistic or achievable on its face. Instead I believe that we should embrace it as a framework and talk to each other about the possibilities that such a horizon present to us. We can only be helped by the idea that our enrollment must increase dramatically. We can only better serve our students by identifying those resources and systems that will allow us to make more of them successful. I encourage the full and meaningful participation of your members in the conversations that will take place this fall and winter about what these opportunities mean to XXX community college.

Attached you will find (a schedule, a date and time, an invitation) for you to meet with the Board and its representatives to discuss these matters. Our Board hopes to join other members of local college boards across Oregon this March to ratify a position on this goal. Please help us make this plan both strategic and responsible by providing your best thinking on what XXX college needs to ask state leaders to provide.

Thank you for your time and interest. I look forward to working with you.