

President's Report to the Board of Education

April 10, 2019

1. **Director of Advancement.** After months of searching for a new Director of Advancement and recently interviewing three final candidates, all well-qualified and with different strengths, I am pleased to announce that Shawn Clark has filled the position and started work on April 8. Shawn brings particular skills that will complement my own and those of the Advancement staff while also addressing the the critical work of Advancement. With a career strategic communications, Shawn brings expertise in public relations, multiple media, research, networking, public speaking, target campaigns, government relations, and community relations. He excels in project management and has a reputation for “getting the job done – and done well.”

I was impressed by Shawn's creativity, knowledge of community businesses and industry, insights about fundraising, and desire to be part of a college that makes a difference in the lives of Douglas County citizens. Shawn will invest quite a bit of time in the coming weeks to deepen his understanding of the College's and the Foundation's operations and goals. He plans to meet with and listen to a wide range of people – the Advancement staff, faculty and staff, senior leadership, Foundation Board members, students, business and industry leaders, and community members. He has goals to acquire fundraising certification, expand community outreach, and build a more substantial endowment fund. Please join me in welcoming Shawn to UCC.

2. **Legislative action.** The Joint Committee on Student Success (JCSS) has released its proposal ([House Bill 2019](#)) to invest an additional \$1 billion in education annually. None of the investments go toward supporting students in post-secondary education. Governor Kate Brown is calling on the Legislature to include new funding for the Oregon Opportunity Grant and community college CTE to the package. This week, the Joint Committee on Student Success is holding two public hearings at the Capitol on April 9 and 11 from 5-7 pm. All community college employees, students, boards, business partners, and friends have been asked to contact Oregon legislators, urging them to support the Governor's call for including post-secondary education in the student success package. OCCA provided a packet of information that included legislative contacts and talking points.
3. **Industrial Technology Project.** On March 21, Mahlum Architects (LeRoy Landers, Principal; and Jeremy Rears, Project Architect) held “visioning” sessions on campus, discussing big ideas for the Industrial Technology Project. In attendance were Steering Committee members (Deb Thatcher, Kacy Crabtree, Natalya Brown, Jess Miller, Jason Aase, Clay Baumgartner, and Steve Loosley), Grant Development Director (Elizabeth Bastian), and faculty/staff who serve as program coordinators (John Blackwood, John Blakely, Peter Chamberlain, Ian Fisher, Tracy Placido, and Jarred Saralecos). Framed by goals of being futuristic and community supported, the brainstorming session focused on desired outcomes from the project. Top on the list were flexibility with room for growth and change, space and technology to meet programmatic needs, a sense of integration and collaboration, ability to show learning in action, and alignment with local industry. Mahlum is returning to campus this week to meet with program faculty and staff and discover more details about programmatic goals and needs.

4. **Campus Food Service.** In seven of the past nine years, the campus cafeteria has had a negative ending fund balance, from a low of **-\$3,814** to a high of **-\$122,687**. During the same period, the Bookstore subsidized the cafeteria from a low of \$50,000 per year to a high of \$114,508 – a practice that cannot be sustained. In FY 2017 and 2018, the College attempted to remedy this poor performance by outsourcing the food service. Only one vendor responded to the RFP, and in the end the new service did not meet the needs of the College. The College reassumed operations of the cafeteria in the latter part of FY 2018. Multiple options are now being considered, such as a micro-market, food trucks, or another vendor. Natalya is holding a focus group on Friday with any interested party from campus to brainstorm other possibilities. The plan is to have a recommendation in place by next month. Catering is also under review, as its negative fund balance in FY 2018 grew to **-\$207,855**. The College is considering alternatives for meeting catering needs.

5. **Reports to the Board.** In order to assure timely and appropriate information sharing with the Board of Education, I am working on a schedule of reports to the Board – reports (such as assessment of governance, strategic plan progress, Athletics, financials, etc.) that are made annually, semi-annually, quarterly, or monthly. Included in this list are the operational reports that you get from SLT members: Provost, Chief Financial Officer, Advancement, Communications, IT, Facilities, Human Resources, and Athletics. My proposal to the Board is to accept quarterly reports for SLT. Currently, staff spend a significant portion of time in the preparation of reports, and monthly reports can be burdensome, especially to the areas with more complex and numerous divisions, departments, and programs. I anticipate that quarterly reports will result in more efficient use of SLT members' time as well as increased depth of reporting.