

OCCA Report
October 8, 2018
Doris Lathrop, Trustee

The OCCA Board of Directors met in Newport at the Oregon Coast Community College campus on Friday, October 5th.

Notes from the Board Forum:

- Thirteen board members attended the board forum prior to the OCCA meeting. Three members (Central Oregon, Chemeketa and Blue Mountain) reported that they are in the process of searching for a new president for the 2019-2020 year. Columbia Gorge has a new president this year.
- SWOCC reported that they are working with a company to reduce the cost of deferred maintenance. The company guaranteed them that they would save 45% and if they don't the company will make up the difference. We might want to look into this more closely. This company is working with other community colleges as well.
- OSBA sent a representative to the forum to reach out to OCCA to work together on a legislative ask for K-20 funding, with an emphasis on large business tax and spending reform with a focus on PERS and insurance costs.

Notes from OCCA meeting:

- OCCA is reaching out to all board members, not just the OCCA representatives, to serve on OCCA committees. Attached is a form to fill out and return by November 15, if you are interested in participating on a committee. I serve on the nominating committee.
- The HECC request for the upcoming legislative session is \$787M. The request for the community college support fund (CCSF) is \$647M. The request for community college student success is \$70M and the request for community college CTE is \$70M, equaling \$787M.
- There is a 3-5% tuition increase built into the budget for the CCSF. If we do not get the funding we may need to increase tuition 12%, or drastically cut the budget in other ways.
- The full legislative session begins February 22, and is scheduled to adjourn by July 4, 2019.
- There will be a legislative update conference call every Monday at 4:00 for anyone interested in hearing what is happening in the legislature regarding community colleges.
- Basecamp, an online tool that stores all OCCA board documents, was demonstrated.
- The OCCA conference will be at Sun River on November 7-9. All board members are encouraged to attend.
- The next OCCA Board meeting will be held at Umpqua CC on December 6-7.

At the national funding level, Congress Passed the FY 2019 Education Funding Bill.

- This week the House passed a fiscal year (FY) 2019 appropriations package that includes full-year funding for programs under the Department of Education and Department of Labor. Overall funding for education programs remained largely level to the funding that was provided in FY 2018. There were a handful of funding increases to community college priority programs which are outlined below.
- Pell Grants - The bill included a \$100 increase to the Pell Grant maximum award for the 2019 – 2020 academic year. This would bring the overall maximum award level to \$6,195. Appropriators utilized the Pell Grant surplus to pay for the majority of costs associated with this increase. The bill also cuts another \$600 million from the surplus in order to offset other funding in the bill. The Pell Grant program has a \$7.4 billion surplus for FY 2018. Cuts to the surplus will have no immediate impact on award level or eligibility, but could accelerate and intensify any future shortfall.

- Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) – CTE received a 5.9 percent increase of \$70 million to the state grant portion of the program.
- Adult Basic Education – State grants under adult education saw a four percent increase of \$25 million.
- Federal TRIO Programs and GEAR UP – TRIO received a five percent increase of \$50 million. GEAR UP saw a 2.9 percent increase of \$10 million.
- Institutional Development – The bill included a one percent increase for the following programs: Strengthening Institutions; Aid for Hispanic-Serving Institutions; Strengthening HBCUs; Strengthening Predominately Black Institutions; Strengthening Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities; Strengthening Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions; Strengthening Asian American & Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions; and Strengthening Alaskan Native & Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions. These increases ranged from \$40,000 to \$3 million depending on the size of the program.
- Apprenticeship Grants – This Department of Labor grant program saw a \$15 million increase.
- Funding for the following programs remained level: Federal Work Study, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants; State Grants under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; and Child Care Access Means Parents in School. The bill also included a new provision that will permit qualified individuals receiving treatment for cancer to defer repayment of their federal student loans without accrual of interest.



**Board Committee Interest
Submission Form
For Committee Assignment**

Name:

College and Position:

I am interested in participating on the following Board Committees. (If selecting more than one, please indicate priority by entering 1, 2, 3, etc.)

STANDING COMMITTEES

- BUDGET COMMITTEE
- HOWARD CHERRY AWARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE
- MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE
- BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

OTHER AD HOC COMMITTEES/ LEADERSHIP ROLE

Please indicate below your areas of interest related to OCCA activities including your interest in becoming more involved in the leadership of OCCA as an officer. You may also use this space to nominate a fellow board member or president.

Please return to: Petrina Bigford at occa@occa17.com by November 15, 2018.