

Oregon University System Overview

Throughout 2004, significant leadership and structural changes took place within the Oregon University System that positioned the organization to help more Oregonians access a postsecondary education in the next and future biennia.

With a **vision for change and reinvestment in the postsecondary education system**, the Governor appointed seven new State Board of Higher Education members. Harnessing the momentum of a re-energized mission and the Governor's goals for expanding access and affordability, the Board created four new Working Groups as its first action: Access and Affordability; Excellence in Delivery and Productivity; Academic Excellence and Economic Development; and the Chancellor's Office Review. Together these Groups have worked hard, and already accomplished much, to establish and implement objectives related to:

1. **Making college more affordable** in Oregon through a redesigned and expanded state grant program, and a proposal for a long-term need-based endowment;
2. **Enrolling more students** in the public two- and four-year colleges and universities by eliminating barriers that inhibit access, transfer of credits, student retention, and completion of a degree within a reasonable period of time;
3. **Better alignment of the economic needs of Oregon with top academic research and ventures** that exemplify excellence and hold potential for economic development; and
4. **Realigning the focus of the Chancellor's Office** with the mission and work objectives of the Board.

Moving forward, the Chancellor's Office will focus on the development and implementation of policy and advocacy for postsecondary education in Oregon, management reporting and control systems, planning and analysis, communications and government relations, and fulfillment of statutory functions. Campuses have been provided with greater autonomy and flexibility, along with the requisite control measures that ensure accountability.

Some former Chancellor's Office functions have been transferred to particular campuses to manage for the System, such as Information Technology Services now managed by OSU; the operation of the Southwestern Oregon University Center, now managed by EOU; and the Oregon Center for Advanced Technical Education (OCATE), now managed by PSU. The new Provosts' Council, made up of academic vice presidents of the OUS campuses, completes due diligence and formal review of new academic degree and certificate program requests, and makes recommendations to the Board. The Council replaces a function formerly carried out by the Academic Affairs division of the Chancellor's Office, which was eliminated during the restructuring.

OUS Campuses and Centers

Excellence is exemplified in the accomplishments of our students and faculty, in the quality of our academic instruction, through innovations in research and the scope of public service at our seven diverse, high quality institutions: Eastern Oregon University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, Portland State University, Southern Oregon University, University of Oregon, and Western Oregon University. Dedicated top faculty, students and staff joined to effect excellence in numerous programs and in diverse disciplines, becoming more widely recognized nationally and internationally as leaders in specialized fields in the arts, sciences, and professions.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Oregon University System is to:

- Provide affordable access to high-quality postsecondary education for all qualified Oregonians;
- Improve and enrich continuously the lives of the people in the state, the nation, and the world through the pursuit and application of ever-deeper understandings in the sciences, the social sciences, the humanities, the arts, and the professions;
- Infuse learning with the vigorous pursuit of free and open inquiry to assure that Oregon has the capacity to respond effectively to social, economic, and environmental challenges and opportunities.

Eastern Oregon University (EOU) in La Grande serves its regional mission through programs in the liberal arts; professional programs in business, education, and community service; and cooperative programs in agriculture and nursing.

Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) in Klamath Falls, the Northwest's only polytechnic institution, serves the state with programs in business, engineering and health technologies, and a cooperative program in nursing.

Oregon State University (OSU) in Corvallis is a land-, space-, and sea-grant university with programs in the liberal arts and sciences and professional programs in agricultural sciences, business, education, engineering, forestry, health and human sciences, oceanography, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine. **OSU-Cascades Campus** in Bend, successor to the Central Oregon University Center, opened in fall 2001 as a state-of-the-art branch campus on the site of its major partner Central Oregon Community College (COCC) in Bend. OSU and its collaborating public and private program providers offer a wide array of student services and a growing number of degree programs in arts and sciences, business, education, natural resources, and recreation.

Portland State University (PSU) in downtown Portland is an urban university offering liberal arts and sciences programs and professional programs in business, education, engineering, health, performing arts, social work, and urban and public affairs.

Southern Oregon University (SOU) in Ashland provides liberal arts and sciences programs; professional programs in business, education, and performing arts; and a cooperative program in nursing.

The University of Oregon (UO) in Eugene is a major liberal arts and sciences university with professional programs in architecture and allied arts, business, education, journalism, law, music and performing arts, and planning and public policy.

Western Oregon University (WOU) in Monmouth provides programs in liberal arts and sciences and professional programs in education, business, and public services.

The Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) in Portland, an affiliated institution, is a major center for instruction, research, and public service in the fields of medicine, dentistry, nursing, and related health programs. Science and engineering programs are offered through a merger with Oregon Graduate Institute (OGI).

University Centers

The CAPITAL Center in Beaverton and the Southwestern Oregon University Center in Coos Bay are innovative partnerships that include multiple institutions and educational sectors. They provide access to higher education services for adult career enhancement and Oregon's economic development. In addition, there are numerous collaborations and outreach centers (not shown here) established by individual OUS institutions, typically with community college partners, to increase educational opportunities across the state. Currently there are a total of 23 dual enrollment programs and articulation agreements between OUS institutions and one or more of Oregon's 17 community colleges.

The CAPITAL Center is a cooperative venture among OUS, Portland Community College, Hillsboro and Beaverton School Districts, and industry. This Center offers credit and non-credit programs in business, management, and engineering technology to help meet regional workforce needs. The Southwestern Oregon University Center (SWOCC) is another OUS/community college collaboration that offers a selection of undergraduate and graduate degree programs on the campus of Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC) in Coos Bay.