Attached are materials for the committee’s review in preparation for the OUS Presidents’ Presentations at the September 9 Governance and Policy Committee meeting.

The University of Oregon seeks a stronger, focused relationship with the state of Oregon. During the last two years, the University of Oregon and our alumni contributed to the policy debate about who gets educated in this state and how we pay for it by suggesting reforms in the governance, standards of accountability and funding structures for Oregon’s universities. To be clear, the University of Oregon has never sought independence from the state. Public higher education has been at the forefront of our state’s ambitions since its founding when land for the University of Oregon campus was promised in the state’s Act of Admission in 1859. The image of Mount Hood depicted on the university seal is a lasting reminder of the university’s commitment to serve the state of Oregon.

However, I am acutely aware that the burdens of affordability and access have fallen hardest on Oregon’s students and families. And, I know that the single greatest reason students leave the University of Oregon, affecting retention and degree completion, is financial difficulty. The University of Oregon’s academic plan and proposals for a new governance and funding relationship with the state are just one approach to the perplexing riddle of how to increase educational opportunities without a hand-in-hand increase in public investment.

I look forward to the discussion about the academic plan and how governance affects the university’s ability to meet the state’s goals. I am optimistic about the opportunity implementation of SB 242 and SB 909 presents for realization of the state’s ambitious 40-40-20 goals.
The materials included here are:

- **The University of Oregon’s 2008 Academic Plan and associated metrics.**

  The Academic Plan was developed in 2008. It acknowledges that the University of Oregon is a flagship institution “as a mission descriptor in the same way that other schools describe themselves as land grant, urban research or regional”. It focuses on three goals – (1) Achieve and sustain American Association of Universities excellence on a human scale; (2) Promote the cultivation of intellectual communities and virtues; and (3) Enroll and retain a diverse community.

  The Academic Plan is available at [http://provost.uoregon.edu/academic-plan/](http://provost.uoregon.edu/academic-plan/). The attached metrics are keyed to areas of emphasis in the plan – diversity of the student body, graduate students as a percentage of the student population, retention, faculty salaries relative to OUS-defined peers, etc.

- **Governance and financing**

  Given the committee’s familiarity with SB 242, SB 909 and the University of Oregon’s proposals, we provide charts to illustrate how the University of Oregon’s idea for a public university endowment creates increased resources to educate Oregon’s students. More information is available at [http://newpartnership.uoregon.edu](http://newpartnership.uoregon.edu). The materials show the expected returns on the investment model and the funding that would be available to the university had the model been in affect following Ballot Measure 5’s passage. We also provide a snapshot of state funding and tuition costs during the same period.

- **The University of Oregon’s impact on the economy and research success**

  Attached is a brochure depicting findings from Professor Tim Duy’s 2011 Economic Impact report and updated charts illustrating how the University of Oregon creates jobs. On a per-capita basis, University of Oregon faculty members continue to be among the nation’s most productive in sponsored research. Oregon companies directly tied to UO research employed 255 Oregonians and generated $32 million in revenue in 2010. The University of Oregon accomplishes this without schools of medicine, agriculture, and engineering, typically drivers of top tier research universities.