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The Honorable Rod Monroe  
The Honorable Betty Komp  
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education  
900 Court St NE, H-481  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Monroe and Representative Komp,

Thank you for your time and interest today in our opening day of testimony. We believe we heard five questions that deserve a more detailed answer than was given during the presentation and we welcome the opportunity to address those more fully.

First, we noted Senator Monroe had a question on the enrollment growth statistic that was presented showing that Oregon has the “Highest 5-year postsecondary enrollment growth increase (%) in the U.S.” The question had to do with who was included in that calculation. The data are from a State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) publication “State Higher Education Finance FY 2012” (<http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/publications/SHEF-FY12.pdf>) and appears on pages 28 (graph) and 29 (table). Included in the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) data are all 2-year and 4-year public institutions in each state, excluding medical students. Independent and for-profit colleges are excluded. Because you had questions on the independents, we went ahead and broke out the rankings by sector. Though they were not included in the SHEEO report, our analysis of the independents shows Oregon ranks 17<sup>th</sup> in the nation among independent not-for-profit institutions nationally (see attached spreadsheet). Certainly Oregon public postsecondary has led the nation enrolling more students during difficult times.

We also heard discussion about the map showing participation rates by county. This map only includes first time freshmen who graduated in the prior twelve months, so students who start at a community college are not included. It was correctly noted that Lake County has a very high participation rate and we can draw some inspiration from this. Today, about 100 students graduate from the three Lake County high schools each year. All are eligible for scholarships, up to \$8,200 per year, to attend public postsecondary institutions in the state. Bernard Daly, an OSU graduate, has made a difference in his community with his foresight and commitment to education.

The third question we heard was from Senator Monroe on the percentage of nonresidents who stay in the state. We have recently matched our graduates with the Unemployment Insurance wage files maintained by the Oregon Employment Department. We have not yet had a chance to do various breakouts so both undergraduate and graduate degree recipients are included. While

the data varies by year, this brief table shows that Chancellor Rose’s estimate of “one quarter to one third” is conservative, below any of the past six years, but there is no question that the recession has had an impact on employment of graduates. Generally about two thirds of employees are full time. In addition, we know that Oregon gains well-educated workers through in-migration and we believe that some of these are recent nonresident OUS graduates who stay. The data do not include graduates who are self-employed, nor graduates employed out of state.

### Employment in Oregon of OUS Graduates

Class	Resident	Nonresident
2010	74.2%	35.7%
2009	74.8%	37.9%
2008	75.8%	40.2%
2007	78.9%	44.2%
2006	80.3%	48.0%
2005	79.9%	47.2%

We noted the discussion on the graduation rate slide, with questions about breakouts for Students of Color. Indeed, some of the differences appear large due to small numbers of students in the cohort. For this reason, we have reproduced the slide with the number of students in a subgroup, and the number that graduate within six years (see attached slide).

Finally, there was a discussion about gender differences. The discussion included possibilities as to why there are significantly more women in universities and colleges, but here we just present numbers for OUS enrollment and degrees received, by institution:

### Fall 2012 Headcount and 2011-12 Degrees by Gender

	Headcount Enrollment		Bachelor's Degrees and Higher	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
EOU	37.7%	62.2%	37.6%	62.4%
OIT	53.2%	46.8%	50.5%	49.5%
OSU	52.4%	47.6%	49.6%	50.4%
PSU	45.0%	53.9%	43.1%	56.9%
SOU	41.9%	57.4%	41.5%	58.5%
UO	48.0%	52.0%	48.0%	52.0%
WOU	39.9%	60.1%	40.6%	59.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.2%</b>	<b>52.4%</b>	<b>45.9%</b>	<b>54.1%</b>

If you have further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at 503-725-5707 or [melody\\_rose@ous.edu](mailto:melody_rose@ous.edu).

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melody Rose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melody Rose, Chancellor  
Oregon University System

Cc: Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education  
Paul Siebert, Legislative Fiscal Office

Attachments