



March 26, 2013

Representative Betty Komp – Co-Chair
Senator Rod Monroe – Co-Chair
Joint Subcommittee on Education
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97310

Re: Support for Higher Education Funding

To: 'Rep.BettyKomp@state.or.us'; 'Sen.RodMonroe@state.or.us'

Representative Komp, Senator Monroe and Members of the Committee:

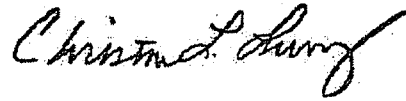
The City of Springfield and the University of Oregon have a very positive and mutually beneficial relationship. UO students live and shop in Springfield and serve as a source for our workforce. The UO is an important presence in our community and we support and encourage increased funding for higher education.

In 2011, Springfield was the partner city for the University of Oregon's Sustainable Cities Year. The Sustainable City Year is a partnership between the University's Sustainable Cities Initiative program and one city in Oregon each academic year. During the course of the partnership, university faculty and students focused on assisting the city, as well as other TEAM Springfield partners, with sustainability goals and projects. The partnership involved more than 400 students and approximately 20 faculty members from a range of academic disciplines. It was awe inspiring to see the UO students and faculty descend on Springfield with the goal of improving the lives of its citizens. Many of the partnerships formed through this collaboration continue to thrive.

Springfield is not alone in benefitting for the UO's Sustainable Cities Initiative and other service oriented programs; next year Medford will participate in the SCI program. Oregon's other public universities provide important public services to communities around the state. They mold our rising leaders, educators, entrepreneurs, and problem solvers. Indeed, the health and vitality of Oregon's communities relies on the health and vitality of our institutions of higher education.

This health and vitality is threatened by years' worth of disinvestment on the part of the state in higher education. You have a chance to lead reinvestment in higher education, and I ask that you take this opportunity to support higher education.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine L. Lundberg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "C" and "L".

Christine L Lundberg,
Mayor,
City of Springfield

Cc: 'Waysandmeans.educationsub@state.or.us'