



PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

American Association of University Professors

Promoting Quality Higher Education – An Investment in Oregon's Future

May 23, 2013

To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means SubCommittee on Education
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Waysandmeans.EducationSub@state.or.us

From: Patricia Schechter, Legislative Committee Chair, PSU-AAUP
Professor of History, Portland State University

Re: SB 270A– Institutional Boards

Co-Chair Komp, Co-Chair Monroe, and members of the committee,

The Portland State University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors has been the professional association of the full time faculty and academic professionals at Portland State University since 1978. We advocate on behalf of faculty to defend the standards and advance the ideals of our profession, improve compensation and working conditions, and promote quality higher education in coalition with students and administrators.

Please accept this written testimony in lieu of a presentation at the public hearings.

The appointment of just one non-voting faculty member to an institutional board so departs from the way we do shared governance at Portland State University and in the Oregon University System that our Executive Council has adopted an oppose position on Senate Bill 270A unless it is amended to include full stakeholder participation- 2 voting faculty, 2 voting students, and 1 voting staff member. Without voting faculty members on the board, we oppose the creation of an institutional board at Portland State University or any other University in the State.

I would also share that we were not allowed to participate in the workgroup that developed Senate Bill 270 and 3120 despite our request to be included. We believe no full time faculty from any four year university was invited or allowed to participate.

We are keen to play our part in the evolving governance structures at Portland State University and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. We hope you will make the corrections needed in SB 270 to make that possible.

For questions please contact Phil Lesch, Executive Director, PSU-AAUP.