

21 March, 2017

Oregon State Legislative Assembly
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301



Re: Support investment in the UO Science Campus

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

We write to encourage you to support the University of Oregon's request for \$100 million in general obligation bonds to invest in the Science Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact. The funds will provide the critical investment necessary to ensure discoveries at Oregon universities can be applied to solve problems related to human health and the environment, enhance economic development and opportunities for industry spinoffs, and position our state to create an economic ecosystem of innovation and prosperity.

In 1992, we founded Electrical Geodesics, Inc. (EGI), an international medical device manufacturing company located in Eugene. EGI is a medical device company that designs, develops, and commercializes a range of non-invasive neurodiagnostic products used to monitor and interpret brain activity. A key component of these products is EGI's proprietary dense array electroencephalography (dEEG) platform technology. With regulatory clearance in the US, EU, and a number of other major international regulatory bodies, the company's technology has been increasingly adopted as a powerful research tool and more recently as a cost effective and patient friendly clinical neurodiagnostic platform. The devices are used in diagnosing epilepsy and other conditions.

For about two decades, our company was a tenant of the University of Oregon's Riverfront Research Park. We left the research park when our company grew too big for the facilities, but we remain on the riverfront in downtown Eugene. We value our proximity to the university, access to colleagues, and the opportunity to make easy connections with graduate students. We remain a University of Oregon research portfolio company and we know from experience that proximity to a university is an important asset for research spin-out companies. Today, we boast a workforce of roughly 90 employees, and we know that the kind of research infrastructure that will be created by the new science campus will enhance Oregon's innovation economy.

We maintain strong collaborations with UO researchers, particularly those at the the UO Neuroinformatics Center. The NIC has established a strong track record not only in federal grant applications and scientific publications, but in translating progress in high performance computing (HPC) for neuroscience projects into patents and into medical product development. Several Small Business Innovation Research grant awards to EGI (including Dr. Sergei Turovets and me as PIs) were applications that developed from the NIC's HPC studies. Several of EGI's commercial products (such as GeoSource 3.0, bounded Electrical Impedance Tomography, and the Modal Image Pipeline) were first explored with NIC research and have now been commercialized with FDA clearance for medical use. In some cases we have received patent awards, including a patent jointly owned by EGI and the UO. EGI has been able to hire several graduate students who first worked in the NIC, and

many former undergraduates are now working full time at EGI who received training on NIC related projects in the Brain Electrophysiology Laboratory.

As you consider action on a capital construction budget this session, we encourage you to invest in the UO science campus. We think the ongoing collaboration between EGI and the UO Neuroinformatics Center will contribute to the important bridge between academic research and industrial commercialization that is key for the Science Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact. The more the state can do to support research and innovation on every campus that serves students across the state, the better off Oregon will be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don M. Tucker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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