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Norman Eder
info@mfg21.com

April 27, 2017

Senator Fred Girod
Representative Paul Holvey
Co-Chairs, Ways and Means Capital Construction Subcommittee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Girod and Representative Holvey:

My name is Norman Eder, Executive Director of the Manufacturing 21 Coalition. I am writing in support Oregon Tech's proposal to fund the Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology/Cornett Hall Renovation, Phase 2.

MFG 21 is an advocacy for Oregon's manufacturing cluster focused on the advancement of workforce training, education and applied research and development. These are the essential parts of the human supply chain that powers manufacturing in Oregon and we rely on institutions like the Oregon Tech to make sure the supply chain is healthy and productive.

Manufacturing 21 strongly supports Oregon Tech's Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology and the renovation of Cornett Hall Renovation.

Cornett Hall and the teaching and research laboratories it houses are in dire need of renovation. Built in 1964, Cornett Hall has multiple life-safety, seismic, and ADA-compliance problems, and lacks functionality and efficiency in both classroom and lab spaces. The facility does not reflect current industry and student needs and does not do justice to Oregon Tech's nationally-ranked engineering programs, in the top 1% in the nation for ROI for graduates.

Your support during the 2015 legislative session helped us start this two-phase project. Oregon Tech has begun the renovation phase, and now needs to add the new Center for Excellence and finish Cornett Hall. This will increase our capacity in Engineering and Technology programs by one-third, helping Oregon meet current and future companies' workforce needs, create 280 local jobs, and reduce the need for imported talent.

Oregon Tech has earned the state's confidence and has a proven reputation for student success by every measure.



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Thank you in advance for your support of Oregon Tech and its capital construction project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Norman R. Eder".

Norman R. Eder
Executive Director

cc: Governor Kate Brown
Senator Peter Courtney
Speaker Tina Kotek
Senator Richard Devlin
Representative Nancy Nathanson
Representative Jennifer Williamson
Representative John Huffman
Representative Greg Smith
Senator Dennis Linthicum
Representative E. Werner Reschke
Senator Kim Thatcher
Representative Rich Vial