



Oregon State University



To: Interim Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education
 From: Oregon Council of Presidents
 Re: Questions from Subcommittee Members
 Date: January 23, 2020

Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain,

During the Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee hearing on January 14, 2020, various questions were asked by the subcommittee members.

Co-Chair Frederick requested information on the majors selected by adult students (defined as students 25 years or older) compared to typical pipeline students. The following information from the HECC suggests that older students have similar patterns of study as their peers who are under 25:

Top ten bachelor's degree majors for all students and students age 25 and up at time of degree, 2018-19

Rank	Bachelor's degrees earned by all students	Bachelor's degrees earned by students 25 and up
1	Business/Management/Marketing	Business/Management/Marketing
2	Social Sciences	Social Sciences
3	Engineering	Computer and Information Sci
4	Communication and Journalism	Engineering
5	Psychology	Health Professions/Related Program
6	Health Professions/Related Program	Psychology
7	Computer and Information Sci	Visual and Performing Arts
8	Biological/Biomedical Sciences	Natural Resources/Conservation
9	Visual and Performing Arts	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies
10	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	Biological/Biomedical Sciences

***HECC analysis of student-level data**

Senator Thomsen asked what level of reserve balances the universities would collectively need to be at the recommended level of 21.7 weeks of operating funds held in reserve. The discussion in the subcommittee determined that roughly \$90 M in reserve balances would be appropriate. However, the correct amount of additional collective fund balance required to allow Oregon's public universities to have an average fund balance that would support 21.7 weeks of operation is **\$489 million**.

Co-Chair McLain asked for information on how each campus determines the appropriate mix of cost-savings measure to employ as well as how best practices are utilized in these decisions.

While the body of this report focuses on providing collective information from the institutions, the appendix provides highly detailed information regarding where positions, administrative costs, and fund balances were reduced at each institution. OCOP will work with subcommittee staff to identify additional information that is responsive to the Co-Chair's inquiry in the revised report that is due in December 2020.