



March 20th, 2020

Joint Special Committee on Coronavirus Response
900 NE Court St. NE,
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Arnie Roblan, Paul Holvey, and members of the committee,

Thank you for convening this committee to provide quick action to protect our fellow Oregonians from COVID-19 as well as the effects of it. On behalf of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon, the Student Body, and our University of Oregon Community we are asking for the committee to support us in our efforts to receive a discounted tuition rate. I would like to extend a special thank you to State Representative Bynum for informing me about this committee last night. We apologize as we were just made aware of this Joint Special Committee.

My name is Sabinna Pierre and I'm currently a senior at the University of Oregon. Currently I am studying Business and have double minors in Legal Studies and Media Studies. I also serve as the Student Body President of the University of Oregon. As of March 11th, 2020 the University of Oregon announced that they will be teaching courses remotely and completely changing the student lifestyle and quality of our education. As on-campus students, we are paying with the expectation of an in-person instruction model. With a switch to online courses, we are losing precious instructional hours, access to critical resources, and are being given an education that is not comparable to the cost of our tuition. Furthermore, the relocation of classes to online is an inherent equity issue that should be addressed through a lower cost of attendance. This change in education forces students to quickly find the means of access to laptops/desktops and wifi connection if they choose to remain in their respective hometowns or on campus. In addition to the pressure being placed on our Graduate Employees, Professors, Faculty, and Staff, they are now being forced to adjust their in-person curriculum to online instruction.

It is completely unfair that economic status is going to dictate if students are able to return home or stay on campus. The University of Oregon serves as a sanctuary for many students. With that being said, many students do not have an exit strategy during this pandemic and this could be compensated with a reduced tuition rate. We, the student body, are therefore asking for aid from state legislatures to reduce the cost of tuition to accommodate for the changed conditions of education and for the inequities that arise from this situation. We spoke and advocated to UO President Michael Schill and the Board of Trustees for the reduction of the Spring Term cost of tuition. Yet, President Schill and the Board of Trustees members made it clear that they don't intend on reducing tuition costs for spring term and the consecutive summer term as well. Finding the funding to support students who can't work remotely in regards to their on-campus jobs and supporting the statewide efforts to temporarily suspend rent, mortgage, and utility payments were also amongst the proposed issues.

As a public university, we expect the best interest of students to be the top priority. With many UO students losing sources of income, the current national climate puts many low income communities at risk. This also puts students at risk who aren't fortunate to work their on-campus jobs remotely thus losing income. Many students are concerned about how they will pay their housing for next month since many students can't afford to go home. With these issues being presented, the cost of tuition must be lowered comparable to the abrupt change

in education conditions. We understand that these are unforeseen times, but students and their families shouldn't have to suffer. We must do what we can to truly support our community. Even though the institution won't be charging students a \$100 fee for online classes this isn't as comparable to the full cost we would pay for other expenses such as building operational fees for buildings that we will not be in.

I understand that the switch to online courses is out of our control. However, what is within your control is showing utmost support for Oregon students and the community by working to reduce the cost of tuition to accommodate for the changed conditions of education as well as the inequities that arise from this situation. More pressing issues are being brought to light during these times that include, but are not limited to: supporting the statewide efforts to temporarily suspend rent, mortgage, and utility payments, and finding the funding to support students who can't work remotely with their on-campus jobs. I sincerely hope that the committee will take these ideas into strong consideration and continue to see the best interest of the students here at the University of Oregon.

In Solidarity,

Sabinna E. Pierre

She/Her/Hers

2019-2020 ASUO President

asuopres@uoregon.edu

COVID-19 Petition

The ASUO Executive created this petition on Sunday March 15, 2020 and as of now we have nearly over 5,000 signatures in addition to responses. That is about 20% engagement of the student population! We have documented more student responses and comments than our Tuition Fees and Advisory Board could ever collect in regards to student tuition. In solidarity with over 5,000 students and UO alumni, we asked the University of Oregon President Michael Schill and the Board of Trustee Members not only to reduce tuition to accomodate for the changed conditions, but also to postpone the Guaranteed Tuition portion of the Board meeting until after this strenuous pandemic. We believe that it is completely insensitive at this unforeseen time to continue meeting under these circumstances around COVID-19. Yes, there is the option of emailing comments but this is actively silencing student voices as well as concerned UO community members. But UO President Michael Schill has stated that the institution “cannot discount tuition” and has no intentions to provide a discounted tuition. Despite the fact that we have asked to reduce the cost of tuition to accommodate for the changed conditions of education and for the inequities that arise from this situation.

The following are some of the student testimonies that stood out from the COVID-19 Petition on reducing tuition when asked why they signed the petition:

As on-campus students, we are paying with the expectation of in person guidance and teaching. With a switch to online courses, we are losing precious instructional hours, access to critical resources, and are being given an education that is not comparable to the cost of our tuition.

Online classes should not cost as much as in person classes

I am an out of state student. I do not want to pay out of state tuition for online classes. I am not using the UO campus or attending any labs, why should I have to pay for these resources. Additionally, online classes do not facility the learning environment to support engaged learning. I'm going to have to teach myself the majority of the lectures so why should I have to pay the same tuition amount as a regular term? I understand that the university did not anticipate the level of seriousness of the outbreak but should be flexible to the situation. To do this, I think that tuition this term should be lowered. Many students are unable to work at this time and are not earning an income. They should not have to worry about paying the same cost of tuition for classes this term due to the outbreak. I'm going to be an undergrad TA spring term and this is an extremely difficult time because on top of trying to stay more engaged and active during online classes, I have to also be more present in the class I TA for since I anticipate students will require much more help. There is just so much added stress to this situation and I don't think tuition should be one of them. Please

consider lowering tuition. Put yourself in the students' shoes and ask yourself, what would you want if you were a student? Thank you for your time.

Equity

Tuition costs are rising every year while the UO President, Michael Schill, takes pay increases simultaneously. When I was a college freshman, I was awarded the Pathway Oregon Scholarship, which promised my tuition and fees would be covered for 4 years. The following year, my dad qualifies for disability payments, which were included in my parents' taxable income. This put me over the line for the Federal Pell Grant, making me ineligible to receive the Pathway Scholarship. They took away my help because of my dad's disability. I'm in massive debt now. Now they're cutting classes due to safety costs and making students pay full price. It's so backwards no matter where you look. If I can help college students at least get a break, I'll do whatever I can.

Concern for my education

I am a UOTeach master's student whose main "course" next term was full time student teaching. As a result of COVID-19, I am not allowed to be in the elementary schools at all. This is a loss of over 400 hours working in person with students that is unmatched by online course experience. There is no way that any virtual classroom will provide me with the extremely valuable experience of working face to face with students as their primary teacher. Due to this, I firmly believe that tuition should be drastically adjusted to reflect the much lower quality of experience that students of the UOTeach program will be receiving. I understand that this pandemic is hard on everyone involved and that the faculty is doing their best to create courses that will give us as much experience as they can, but in this instance, it is impossible to match the quality of being a primary teacher with a virtual experience. I ask that tuition is greatly lowered to reflect this.

i am forced to go on campus to work so i can pay my rent. The check I get from the university every month does not cover my rent however because I am required to be a full time student. my second part-time job was suspended for the foreseeable future, and those two checks still do not cover my rent. Obviously, rent is not the only expense I pay and I also pay for me and my roommates' food using food stamps. The least you could do to help not only me but other students in situations like mine (no internet access or computer yet forced to do online classes to complete spring term, immunocompromised people having to work on campus to pay bills, etc) is to lower tuition. not to mention, it is already being raised again next year. and the next year. Please consider the real, hard lives that students at this school have to endure just to pass classes. so many of us here are struggling and to then have to deal with the absolute chaos COVID-19 has caused (despite having "no confirmed cases on campus or in lane county") is putting that much more pressure, anxiety, and stress on us. not to say that the school is not dealing with an immense amount of pressure either- i understand that no one knows what's going on right now and to try to take swift courses of action that affect the lives of tens of thousands of people is not an easy task. All I ask is that you fully commit yourself to understanding what this moment is like for the students here. How do you think the most vulnerable, at-risk student is coping with this situation right now? make your decision on behalf of that person. The students here have been weary to trust the UO administration, and I argue for good reason. Now

is the time to prove to us that you care about and fight for us not only in public statements or in mass emails, but also in the conference room and in meetings. we need your support but you have to be worthy of ours.

While I understand that a tuition decrease may impact the finances of the University - especially with the newfound need to create online classes for the following term at expeditious rates - it is highly unethical to belittle the needs of a number of students for the sake of self-preservation. Leaving dorms and other facilities open for the duration of Spring Term 2020 and charging the expected sum for the sake of mitigating a financial burden is already disadvantageous to the student population, but remains acceptable. In this case, students have the choice of utilizing the resources they paid for, whereas cancelling physical classes and other "unnecessary gatherings" prevents students from interacting with professors in a familiar and effective way. The inability to receive the resources we pay for is unethical and is an active violation of our community. Signing this petition does not mean that I wish to receive substantial compensation for what I am missing, but implies that I demand a reasonable and equitable decrease in tuition to account for the lack of access to resources that I would otherwise be able to utilize. I have not done the math, but I am assuming that the tuition decrease that stems from this debacle would remain small per capita. The University of Oregon's endowment has performed well over the course of the last decade, and should be able to cover the losses despite the poor performance of the stock market. There are other factors that I have not mentioned in my response that need to be considered, but the outlined reason(s) as to why I decided to sign this petition remain clear. Listen to us, or the University will not be happy with the fallout come Fall 2020.

I'm a fifth year student, so I have been experiencing the rise of tuition for half a decade. I have also been assessing the quality of education that I have been receiving, including access to resources to be able to successfully complete my academics. Considering the context for Spring 2020, I am demanding a refund for the projected tuition rate. Considering some of the feedback from my previous professors, I know that the quality of education will further be reduced online because of limited technological knowledge and limited IT support. Also, given that professors will be posting their content online, this means that I will be self-teaching the majority, if not all of the material for the course. I'm assuming some professors will make more efforts than others to make themselves accessible. This also highlights an issue of inconsistency amongst the departments in terms of grading, but this is a topic for another day. All in all, why do I have to pay for full tuition for a term in which I have to figure things out myself? Many argue that most information is available online, so a college education is not necessary especially with the current job market related to tech. I predict Spring 2020 will determine the fate of public, exploitative institutions such as the University of Oregon in a manner that determines they are obsolete.

The decision to switch all classes to online/remote is incredibly impactful to every single UO student's education and is a decision in which we had zero control over or say in making. While the decision may be in the best interest of the health and safety of this campus, it is unfair for all students to be paying full tuition when our education and learning experience is being diminished. By taking classes online we lose valuable time and communication with our professors and instructors as well as lose the ability to collaborate and participate with our peers. Many classes, especially those run through the CHC, are based on active

participation and discussion which cannot be optimally replicated in an online or remote learning environment. However, most importantly this decision to hold classes online creates a huge equity issue as many students will be unable to access computers, WiFi, or other technology needed to succeed in these online classes. As a public university we need to ensure that all students can safely and fairly move forward with their education in a time of uncertainty regardless of economic status. Paying full tuition for a suboptimal educational experience is not only unfair but will be a massive burden on many students who are already struggling to deal with the current situation.

Financial hardship

Parent of student

Affected sibling

It's ethical

Concern over quality of education offered through online courses

Students deprived on campus benefits should be compensated for.

As an AEC learner, my education is going to be severely impacted without in-class resources and accessibility. If I wanted to simply take online classes, I wouldn't need to be paying as much as I am to attend the UO.

Disruption of student learning of the in-person setting that leads to those visual and auditory learners not succeeding within their curriculum by being mandated to off campus online attempts at education for those classes that cannot be successfully taught or learned at the online level. This is devastating also to the tactile learners. Plus with lab class disruptions, no true understanding can be achieved at this level.

I have worked so hard to finally be able to take a major upper division class called therapeutic techniques that I was looking forward to getting to be more hands on by a really good instructor here, I am not receiving the same education and resources anymore thus should not be paying a ridiculous amount for it to be online and mostly self taught.

It's an immoral and money hungry act to charge students the full price on top of the \$100 fee for taking online courses. Many students won't even be in Eugene for the entirety of the 3 weeks of remote operations. It is basically financial theft to require students to pay for fees that do not apply to them

Currently students are not getting the same learning experience that they have had in the past when they are learning on campus. One of the major things is that they are paying for benefits and resources that are not being used at the moment. Therefore, lowering the tuition for spring 2020 is the move.

Reduce the tuition for the reduced services. An in person education offered normally at UO is what we paid for. I could have paid less for an online school. I didn't because online inherently has less value, and the extra cost of being in a in person program is why I'm here.

I don't believe it's fair for the students to pay mandatory fees for classes and resources that won't be offered due to the virus. When many of these students will be required to provide their own method for online classes when we are paying thousands for these things.

Online, I cannot ask/answer questions and establish a rapport. How can I possibly learn?

Not everyone has the economic funding to be able to access everything online .

We are not using facilities on campus as much as we attend school in person

As an out-of-state Graduate music student, this pandemic and the change of operation are delaying my education here at the UO. It is absolutely unfair and ridiculous for students like me to pay more for basically a nonexistent education this upcoming spring term. You cannot teach a music class remotely and most students do not have access to instruments. We only have access to those through the school and we shouldn't need to pay more than we already are when we're not using those school resources. If anything, we should be refunded for the spring term for the lack of school resources provided because of this teaching/learning remotely experience. Plus my current graduate assistant job is barely over the minimum wage and I cannot survive in Eugene if the school is adding more debt on my student loans.

We aren't getting in person classes shouldn't have to pay in person tuition

It's unfair that we are not getting the education we are paying for.

tuition should not be as expensive if the classes are online.

We shouldn't be paying this much money for online classes

cannot afford to pay 50k for online school

Shouldn't be full price for online classes

I agree with this petition.

It's the fair thing to do

I know that the reasons presented above are extremely valid for many students. While I often take online classes even as an on-campus student, I know that many students actively avoid that as an option because they learn better in a classroom environment. Out of state students especially did not come to Oregon only

to continue paying out of state tuition while they are stuck at home. Additionally, every student who is enrolled in a dance, PE, or other in-person class cannot get the same physical benefits we expect from being in these classes, and reducing tuition to compensate for what we are losing out on is the right thing to do. Students are paying for our education, and just like what anyone would expect from any other service, we deserve what we are paying for or to be compensated for a reduction in the quality of the product. It is widely understood that we must all make sacrifices during this complicated time, students or not. UO administration must be prepared to sacrifice some of their personal benefits for the good of the students just as students must sacrifice the quality of our education. Changing tuition, even slightly, is the right thing to do for the students. We are the driving force of UO, and we are what matter most.

I am an out-of-state student, paying a very large amount of money for each credit I take. Additionally, I am in the honors college with a spanish minor. The beauty of taking many of those classes is that they offer a small classroom setting, where students are encouraged to discuss with each other and use the information learned in class through in-person dialogue and debate. I have found that I learn the concepts much better in this setting, as I am able to explain them in my own words and apply them to assignments. Restructuring these courses online will limit the quality of learning I would receive if they were in person. I understand that it is not the university's fault and they are simply looking out for the students and faculty by initiating measures to increase social distancing in light of this recent pandemic. However, by signing up for the courses I plan on taking in the spring 2020 term, I had the expectation of paying for a more hands-on learning style that is offered through my discussion-heavy spanish and honors college courses. I am signing this petition because I believe that we as students deserve to be charged less for this new structure we did not expect or agree to when registering for classes.

Being an out of state student cost of tuition is already costly as it is. Now that classes have been switched to online for at least the first 3 weeks I do not see how it would be possible for them to transfer in person for the remaining part of the quarter. Therefore I believe they should remain online for the entire quarter and the cost should be lowered, this being many students have already returned home and will be learning online in their home residence. This being said not only should tuition for spring quarter be lowered but there should be an option for students who live on campus to not pay for room and board if they will be returning home for the spring quarter. Also, with so many people traveling for spring break and the first three weeks there is no way for the University of Oregon to keep the spread of COVID-19 under control if students are required to return to campus after the 3 weeks are up. Living in the dorms is scary at this time because the virus can be easily spread. I love the University of Oregon with my whole heart but at this time of uncertainty we all need to keep ourselves safe, and those around us (students/faculty).

I'm signing this petition because I along with the majority of the student body feel as though our tuition money and voice are not being adequately represented at this time. As an out of state student, I chose the University of Oregon because of the on campus resources offered such as the advising, facilities, access to staff as well as the study abroad program, all of which has been fully restricted from me and my fellow students due to this pandemic. Students should receive a prorated tuition cost depending on the number of weeks missed in the affected term, or tuition should be cut in half as I will be completing the remainder of my classes online in my home state. The bottom line is that it's the duty of the University to work with their

students to compensate financially and understand the point of view and situations that their students are facing as a result of CoronaVirus across the globe. The future actions of the University directly reflects the priorities and interests of the Universities standards and administration. I along with the rest of my colleagues will be greatly disappointed if this is not addressed properly by the University.

While accessing campus remotely is important for my health amidst this outbreak, I do not benefit from the lack of interaction with my professors in what is my last term at the UO; nor do I believe I (or rather, my PathwayOregon Grant) should have to pay the amount for what are considered in-person lectures. Not only this, but I worry about the fellow students who do not have instant access to a computer or reliable wifi, leaving them to travel out and potentially infect themselves or others. This is especially so if the student cannot afford on-campus housing due to reduced hours from their work in response to COVID-19, and must return home or find other means of accessing the internet and their classes. I work in a place that is high trafficked with bodies, and I am currently trying to find ways to work that do not put me at risk for getting sick. This will potentially lead to working reduced hours at my station or not working at all. That being said, the money left over from what would usually pay my tuition would be used for buying supplies during this social distancing. Supplies such as medicines, food, and money towards emergency funds.

Having all online or remote classes greatly hinders the learning of all students. They're either easy and a joke or so hard you have to contact your teacher so often that it should be an in person class session. While campus may still be open, with no physical in class options, campus can potentially save a great deal of money through electricity, heat, WiFi, water and more. If the costs of day to day activities for the university are decreasing, why shouldn't the students who pay for an education pay less as well. There are also the students who may not have the resources to participate in the remote and online classes. They will have to go to great lengths to still get the education they are paying for and may even have to invest even more money. I also haven't heard anything about the school of design and if all of those students need their own resources and cannot use the school's technology (such as a laser cutter, 3D printer, studio workspace, etc). With all of the lengths that students and staff will have to go through to accommodate these changes, I believe a tuition decrease should be thoroughly discussed.

Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge that the quality of professors, educators, and content is not in question but rather the methods of teaching involved. As someone who has taken multiple online courses before, I understand how certain subjects may not be taught as effectively using online tools. In fact, many students may find remote learning to be less effective in the absorption of information. To make matters even more complicated, a number of the educators involved may not be accustomed or entirely prepared to switch the curriculums that they put so much time and effort into creating, into an online format. This is not to say that it is not possible but it is certainly less than desirable. However, considering the circumstances, as this is what is required to keep people as safe as possible, I believe tuition costs should reflect the sudden changes happening. I'd also like to extend a thank you to all the staff who are coping and developing strategies to maintain a safe and effective learning environment within the school. It cannot be easy and is very much appreciated.

There are many people who rely on campus resources for their education and personal well-being and it is unreasonable to expect them to pay enormous amounts in tuition when these resources are not available. Especially because some of these resources have to do with physical and mental health which is an increasing concern for many students during this time and taking on the task of managing one's own health during a global crisis while having to navigate new systems and methods of learning can increase stress and anxiety. This should not be coupled with the financial insecurity many students already face when they cannot access resources to help them manage their health and well-being. Many students also rely on work-study or campus jobs and are facing the reality of reduced income with the closure of many facilities around town and on campus. Students who are unable to leave campus should not be burdened with worry about paying for housing when they should be prioritizing their health and the safety and well-being of others around them.

I am a third year HPHY student who may have to learn human anatomy through a computer screen rather than learning directly off of human cadaver bodies (which have anatomical variations between each donor). Next term, in order to continue my education on understanding the human body, I was planning to take a cadaver dissection lab. It is not fair to be paying the same amount for a completely different style of learning that results in "textbook" learning of structures rather than through real life experience. In addition, with the outbreak, I am having to reduce my work hours to align with public health principles of social distancing in order to protect the vulnerable populations from COVID-19. Preventing the spread of this disease and flattening the epidemiological curve/impact for the entire population comes with individual sacrifice. With UO lowering the tuition, it empowers us to trust that our safety & health is at a #1 priority and would help many lower-income students like me to continue my education despite staying at home.

I'm a firm believer to sign due to the extra accommodations students have to make to this adjustment with lower quality, time constraints, and the changing of it all while it needs our health and concern. The university stated that they will notify the student body on April 10th in order to claim further notice in regards to the COVID-19 virus, because that date is when students would have to pay full price of tuition. Students are changing to community college for the spring because of the status of the tuition or some may be even in more expenses when it doesn't have to be that way, because this is an issue of unfair equity to our student body. In response to this, our tuition must be accommodated underneath the circumstances of a world outbreak. If we take the necessary steps and precautions, while the government and some companies are covering workers' ends for loss wages, we should have the same treatment as the future of the world to be accommodated for our loss money of this transition.

An online course is simply not the same experience as taking a course in person. I appreciate the UO administration for closing campus to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; however, if I wanted to take classes online I would have registered for online classes or be enrolled in an online college. I have reservations about the quality of the education I will receive for almost a third of the term especially when architectural design is such a hands-on process and it's crucial to have that in person feedback. I am sure the faculty is working hard to provide a modicum of quality we would receive having an in-person studio experience, but an online video call or watching videos is not going to provide the same experience we would normally get. Class experience besides, attending courses remotely means I won't be on campus accessing any of the

buildings or having the same experience in the student groups I attend, all of which are charged as additional fees on top of the tuition.

As an on-campus student, it is excessive to over charge me for facilities that I physically will not have the capability to use. This creates the preference to stay at home during this time to stick with the comfort of my family as the sun pandemic continues. However, it's counterintuitive to charge me for room and board for a minimum of 3 weeks when I will not be within the state of Oregon. Students should not have to worry about the housing costs and monetary losses during such a serious time, especially students who have illnesses that risk their health. Although remote classes will be beneficial to continue education in certain instances, many students (i.e. music majors and discussion based majors like English and language, in person labs, and more) are stuck taking non beneficial classes because they are unable to do their work online. Reduced tuition fees and housing costs will relieve the high amounts of stress that students will feel in this trying time.

I understand that this outbreak is something no one could have predicted, and it is difficult to know how to respond and restructure academic life. I am a visual art student and am working to complete my 5 year degree at University of Oregon this Spring. Online classes are not adequate for my degree-it is impossible to take a studio class online, and engage in deep discussions with my classmates in art history seminars. Other students have even more difficulties to face going into this, including housing, dealing with mental health, and maintaining social connections. Teachers and faculty are expected to teach online classes with little training. Furthermore, not all students and teachers have access to technology needed for online classes, especially with the public library in Eugene closed down. It is impossible to predict the severity of all of this, but it would be immensely helpful for me and others for a tuition break.

The remote learning system does not reflect the quality education our tuition dollars are paying for. According to University workload policy, a 4-credit class requires 120 hours of in-person learning and 30 hours of work. This reduced the number of hours in person learning immensely and relegates our learning to the length of class powerpoints. Furthermore, this remote system makes the uncanny assumption that all students have access to remote learning platforms. Hopefully our learning platforms allow students to reach faculty via video chat. The university should address to its Federal partners how students' access to remote learning and social distancing will affect students without the necessary resources. Furthermore, the quality of education is compromised with respect to tuition costs and violates mandated university workload policies. Simply liquidating interest rates on federal loans will not be enough.

This is my last term of my undergraduate studies. I worked so hard up until this point to be able to finally take a certain upper division human physiology major class where the most optimal learning comes from hands on experience that is useful for graduate school as a pre-health professional. It is unfortunate that I will not get to be immersed in class with a great instructor and peers to learn from. I also have other classes that include labs and will be missing out on this experience. Although I understand these steps are necessary and that the problem is bigger than us, I still strongly believe that we should not be paying the same amount for less resources, since we are realistically not receiving the same education. Tuition has

already been expensive enough and for what I am paying I do not even get the best resources and equipment as a science major in labs and whatnot, but that is a different problem.

There's no need to raise tuition for students because more than half the students are already in student debt and raising tuition puts people at risk of dropping out and transferring. Students are already struggling being away from family and the add of tuition is going to add more stress in their life, which leads to depression, which leads to higher rate of drop out and self harm. We can all use the extra money we save from lowering tuition to pay for necessities like food, rent or transportation and seeing families more to regain security. In order to lead towards a successful college experience and higher graduation rates and increase higher attendance of college for people, the university should consider lowering tuition!!! Make this world a better place by making higher education more accessible for all students and people of many different backgrounds! Thank you!!

I believe it is only fair to lower tuition in the case of transitioning to online classes. The majority of the student population will not be on campus, and therefore should not have to pay extra fees that only benefit students if they are actively on campus. Additionally, it was not the will of the students to go online, and although we all appreciate the precaution, it was still forced upon us. Many of us are going home, to ensure we stay safe with our families in this very scary time, and tuition may become a problem in the following months. The stock market crash and recession that is likely to follow can cause family members to lose their jobs, and the coronavirus pandemic could even cause family members to lose their lives. It is a very scary time for many people, and it is important to remember that and have compassion for affected individuals and their families.

As a geology major, I am required to study with equipment for a large portion of my classes, specifically with microscopes provided by the school to analyze thin sections and rock samples. Additionally, we have often had field trips where we are exposed to observable outcrops/landscapes that are meant to give us a feel for what best suits our interests career-wise, as well as providing us with a feel for field work in general. With the current restrictions our school is making in lieu of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am unable to learn as sufficiently as before with solely online classes. Our university is making the right move in preventing its students from receiving or spreading the illness, but such restrictions are also objectively preventing me, in addition to other students with different majors, with an education that coincides with current tuition costs.

I understand the need to protect the students and staff from this virus but I hope you recognize why we are asking for cheaper classes. As a senior in the PPPM major we are required to take a class that revolves around public speaking, leadership and working in a group environment. This is a class I was looking forward to because I knew it would challenge me to speak in front of large groups but now I won't get that chance which means I should not be paying the same amount for a class that will be drastically different than the one my peers have taken. I value my education but I know that an online class does NOT provide me with the same knowledge and skills as an in person class and therefore do not believe it is ethical for you to force the student body to pay thousands of dollars for an education we did not agree to or sign up for.

Reduced tuition costs are especially necessary for out of state students who pay to go to school here and pay astronomical costs only for classes to go online. I am an out of state student. If the UO is to potentially shut down, as well, we will be paying to be attending the UO from our homes, and many, MANY students cannot swing that and would most likely drop out. Online classes are also very difficult for some with learning difficulties, which is why they attend lectures and in-class discussions in the first place. Testing is also very difficult to do remotely. PLEASE lower tuition during this time and do not just use this perilous situation as a money grab when so many families that are supporting their kids through college/college students supporting themselves through college are feeling the drastic effects of this pandemic.

As a student in the college of design, our education will be changing drastically. Our studio classes are meant to be hands-on with access to places like the fusion lab or the woodshop. I have heard from professors that they plan on making things more discussion based. This will impact the amount of work I could be adding to my portfolio, which is crucial for the job search as an artist. If I weren't graduating soon, I personally would choose not to attend UO during this time and come back when classes are in session in person, but I need to graduate on time. Also, as an out of state student, tuition is already very high. I don't feel as if I am getting my money's worth (about 4,000 a class) if I am forced to take my art studio classes online. Please take this into consideration, I and many others would greatly appreciate this.

This is a time where students are suffering due to their lack of savings- if we are to be isolated and jobless (My work has just closed) we cannot be expected to pay the same cost for classes that lack communal learning. It is peer conversation and face to face interaction that brings classes to life. Furthermore, I know plenty of people who do not have at home computer access, and who will be forced into germ heavy public spaces (IF they are still accessible) to complete these courses. As an art major it's almost laughable that we will be online... Not only is Coronavirus causing financial burden, but the university's response to it is going to impact the economically insecure the most, and as students we are all more financially insecure, especially now, when thinking about how we are going to eat is a frightening issue.

As a student at UO paying their own way without loans, I would really like my tuition to reflect my educational resources. If our courses are going to only be offered online instead of in person, the rates should reflect that, even if only for part of the term. I expect the change to last longer than 3 weeks (current virus predictions expect a peak in May) and given how tight finances are with jobs laying people off, I think UO should help its students stay in school and complete their education. If the change is extended, UO should reimburse the students as credit as each credit hour changes from campus rate to online and the fees that match it. That way, they will still be able to receive the expected payment up front and can credit the changes to the next quarter (or graduating students can cash out at the end of the term).

I am affected by this change as a student at the University of Oregon, but in signing this petition I cannot help but think about the population at this school who come from out of state and are paying out of state tuition to only take classes online from home. Many students and their families make sacrifices to come to this school and students would be sacrificing even more to be paying a tuition so high while not being able to obtain the level of education they expected to get from this school when first enrolling, as well as the experience a student gets when attending the University of Oregon. A student such as myself would also

hope to see that the college that they choose would also be willing to choose them. What this looks like is a board of administration that will make decisions in the best interest of the students.

I agree with a reduction in tuition for the reason that when students sign up for online classes it's for many reasons including those individuals having access to the technology necessary to function in the online class. In person courses are taken for many reasons and some of those reasons might include students not having access to all the technology that online students have access to. That being said, tuition should be lowered for students who signed up for an in person course. A good example is an OBA class. OBA 311/312 requires access to Excel. During class sessions, professors conduct class through excel. Those students will be missing out on the technology for 3 weeks or more possibly. Those students are also paying to use that technology. Tuition should be reduced for the 3 weeks that students have to work remotely.

As an incoming student, I hate to see the way the UO is dealing with the issues arising amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. if you are going to pride yourself on being such a diverse school, then make sure that you are offering resources to your economically disadvantaged students during this trying time. the high costs of tuition can be justified through the connection and space that on-site learning offers, but an online education does not share those same perks. by continuing to hold the same tuition price while taking away resources that students like me chose to attend the UO for, then in a way you are almost swindling your students. As you make decisions regarding tuition and housing costs for the 2020 spring term please put yourself in the position of those who attend the college and stop letting greed cloud your morality.

As a UOTeach student, I had been looking forward to a full-time student teaching practice for spring term, which has since been canceled. However, there is no replacement for actually teaching that is equal in value. Tuition should reflect this devastating change in our course of study, as the true value of our experience has dramatically dropped. In addition, it is currently unclear whether the state of Oregon will allow us to graduate with full licensure as we had expected to, now that we will be missing approximately 400 hours of contact time with students. Given that our program of study no longer meets the basic requirements set by the TSPC to grant teacher candidates Oregon licensure, we should not be expected to pay the same amount as previous students who have been guaranteed licensure.

I am a student, and will be affected, along with literally thousands of others. Many of us who are Residential students, including myself, have transplanted ourselves hundreds, for some thousands of miles away from home, some crossing countries and oceans, to be here. Now that we're here, due to unforeseeable events, we won't be able to utilize the in-person services we were expected. We will already be facing food scarcity, rent anxiety, work anxiety (especially since many of us are food service/retail workers) sanitary product scarcity (see, hand sanitizer, toilet paper, lysol, etc.) and the problem will only get worse before it gets better. We realize the University will be affected as well, but we know you have the resources to weather this term, while many students don't. Please help us.

My brother, Emiliano, is currently attending UO and will not be able to get the full education he needs due to this pandemic. Therefore, he shouldn't have to pay for his full tuition since he's not able to attend an actual class. Virtual classes for architecture majors will not fully prepare him and other students to go into their

2nd year. He is also paying for all these other facilities to be open for him to study and that's not happening either. We, his family, understand the situation we're all in as a nation, yet, we feel it's unfair for him as well as other students to have to pay for the whole cost of their tuition when the quality of the education they signed up for is not fully being given. We ask that you lower down the cost of everyone's tuition during this time of need.

As an undergraduate student who is paying out-of-state tuition, I find it ridiculous that alongside fearing the spread of this viral disease and having to adjust to a completely backward college experience I have to also face a rise in my college tuition. I already am struggling to appropriately budget my savings to avoid college debt, and now I have to give more money for an experience that I will now have to earn online? Without resources? Without personal advising? No. This is far from fair or equitable and I urge that the higher-ups involved reconsider who they should be aiding in this time of crisis. The students who have so much on the table to lose or their own campus that a large percentage of the school will probably not be physically present in for the rest of the term

While the University of Oregon's response to the pandemic has been better than many other institutions, and as a student I am grateful that my peers will not be removed from on-campus housing, the University must continue to set a precedent for other institutions in providing adequate support for its student body during this time. The vast majority of students at UO pay to attend classes in-person and receive support from various on-campus faculty persons and resources. Online classes have existed and been available for university students for many years, but the majority of UO's student body chooses to take in-person classes instead. Students must be compensated for the difference in our well-founded expectations for spring term and the unforeseen reality of a global pandemic.

-Given that course work will continue remotely, the university is spending less money to operate than if course work would continue in classes (lights/electricity, cleaning, other running working costs). -Quality of education online as opposed to in person is lesser than. Students lose the opportunity to go to office hours, tutoring sessions, peer advising, as well as a variety of other academic resources. If students wanted online course work, they would've applied to online universities where costs are lower and resources are limited.
-For students that live on campus, dining resources are limited. I am unfamiliar with other Housing cutbacks, but students room and board fees should as well decrease given that students are currently paying the same for less resources.

If the university intends to claim it has done all it can in the name of accessibility for students in this unprecedented crisis there can be no lack of accounting for different socioeconomic conditions students experience. Many students depend on the school libraries for access to computers and depend on checking out books for classes. Furthermore, without access to instructional hours and direct clarification of possibly confusing materials, students are losing the opportunity to attempt to adjust their learning in the ways that suit their needs. I personally am a very hands on learner and engage in discussion/ask questions often in courses to ensure that I am processing the content fully, without that I fear my comprehension and information retention will suffer.

Hello! I'm a student attending my 4th year at the UO as a computer science major. The courses involved in this major are very hard and I spend a lot of my time on campus talking with professors and attending all lectures so that I can get through the major with As and all of the knowledge I can acquire. I believe that since I will now be limited to fewer resources, I shouldn't be paying the same tuition rate as I have been in previous terms. It's simply that I will be getting much less support from the university than before and the quality of the teaching will be undeniably worse as most of the professors aren't used to teaching online and will have to restructure their programs. Also thank you for putting your students first in being preventative with this virus!

I personally hold much anxiety when thinking about taking my art classes online this upcoming spring term. These are classes that have a very important impact and influence on my future career, art therapy, and I worry that I will feel behind or lost when classes start back up again. I rely heavily on in-person feedback and discussions, for I am very much a kinesthetic learner, meaning I learn best from doing rather than seeing or hearing instructions. I have also put a huge amount of pressure on myself to keep up straight A's throughout my entire college career, and going into the third term of my junior year of college, I have continued to meet this goal. I am very afraid that having these classes online will keep me from being able to continue this goal.

The UO has enough money to afford reducing tuition during these trying times. So many valuable students may not be able to afford their education due to not being able to work right now. We have already seen many organizations step up to continue to provide pay to their workers, etc. and this is a very rare occasion that calls for empathy and generosity from those in power. Please set an example for this generosity so students around the nation can continue to get their education that is vital for a prosperous world future.

I'm not getting the same level of education because it's online so I shouldn't pay the same price. I'm currently in southern California (my county currently has 17 confirmed cases) and won't be able to use the on-campus resources. I'm not coming back to campus until in-person classes start again. Especially considering that I'm paying out-of-state tuition and staying off campus because I would risk people's health and safety if I did go to the airport and come back to Eugene, I think my tuition for this term should be lowered.

I did not come from Texas to the UO to take online courses in my house. Out of state tuition is expensive enough. I came here for the experience and to be in Oregon. I would have the same experience taking community college online courses as I will these three weeks or more of spring term. I am asking that the university take this into consideration when discussing tuition costs. It is not fair to the student body to pay full price for a third or possibly of the experience due to something out of anybody's control.

We pay thousands of dollars to receive in-person education, as well as the resources on campus associated with it. Classes, programs, and services are being cut, and even those that aren't will be severely hindered by this poorly planned, improvised, "remote" education. We were informed of these changes AFTER registering for spring classes, which were logically assumed to be executed normally, so it is only fair that we are financially compensated for a lower-quality education than we were initially promised.

