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Greg Fallon

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Geography Department

Post Office Box 751 Portland, Oregon 97207-0751

503-725-3163 tel 503-725-3166 fax www.geog.pdx.edu

To: Speaker Kotek and President Courtney

Fr: Martin Lafrenz, Ph.D.

PSU Geography Chair (lafrenz@pdx.edu)

Re: Letter of Support for Renovation of Science Building 1

I am writing to express my strong support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation & Expansion Project. Geography is one of the many departments that would move into and thus benefit from the teaching, research, and community resources that would be provided with this renovation. Geography is an interdisciplinary field where we teach science, social science, and technical courses. We draw students from across the university who seek to understand human-environment interactions in a spatial context, and this renovation would allow us to fully bring our teaching and research into the 21st century.

When people think about Geography they usually think of maps. We certainly teach cartography, but Geography is more than maps. We teach and research about weather and climate, water resources, forest ecology, remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems, feminist science, environmental justice, and spatial cognition. Truly, we train our students to think spatially in order to explain the world and how humans interact with it.

Our recent graduates work in environmental planning – mainly in the greater Portland area, in geotechnologies, such as flying drones and low altitude mapping, in spatial decision support networks, and as local educators in K-12; this latter effort is supported through our nationally recognized Center for Geography Education.

Our faculty work closely with local agencies, including METRO, Clackamas Water, the Oregon Water Science Center, as well as with national and international partners. These efforts provide a diverse set of learning opportunities for our students both in the field and in our laboratories. We are a growing unit and seek to expand our teaching and research efforts, but we are currently limited in space and by antiquated facilities. This renovation would significantly expand our capacity to serve our students and to train the next generation of Oregon Geographers.

Martin Lafrenz



University Honors College

Dr. Brenda Glascott, Director
Post Office Box 751 503-725-9423 tel
Portland, Oregon 97207-0751 glascott@pdx.edu

February 11, 2020

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney:

I am writing in support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation & Expansion Project. As an educational partner, I see the excellent work the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and its programs are doing to serve underrepresented and first-generation students in health- and STEM-related fields.

PSU's Science Building 1 leads all other public universities in Oregon in the education of first-generation students, Underrepresented Minorities, veterans and Pell Grant recipients. The SB1 Project enhances opportunity and equity for students whose future career goals match two of the state's key occupational areas, health- and STEM-related fields. There are three significant areas in which capital funding can greatly impact not only the lives of our students but the greater Oregon community. First, a designed space that centers on transparent collaboration and modern lab facilities. Second, a home for the STEM Equity and Education Institute that furthers the potential for a diverse and innovative workforce. Finally, co-located industry partners that can provide a future beyond graduation. It represents advances in educational design and architecture, improvements in equitable and inclusive instructional modalities, and tools for modern research.

A cornerstone of PSU's access to health- and STEM- related fields, the SB1 Project realizes a long-term goal of PSU to physically unite BUILD EXITO, Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), McNair Scholars and Scholarships in STEM (S-STEM), which collectively make up the STEM Education and Equity Institute and serve well over 1,000 students. The Institute excels in serving first-generation students, low-income students and students of color, who make up over fifty percent of students enrolled in STEM disciplines at PSU.

I know first-hand how PSU's Science Building 1 is advancing our state's STEM- and health-related workforce priorities. It serves nearly 700 students, faculty and staff, and will serve many more with needed safety, seismic and system upgrades. Graduates of the programs housed in Science Building 1 continue their careers in the state and advance diversity in the science field.

Sincerely,

Brenda Glascott

Brenda Glascott



Department of Physics College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Post Office Box 751 Portland, Oregon 97207-0751

February 7, 2020

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney,

On behalf of the students in my department, who almost all seek to join the growing high-tech work force in Oregon, I'm writing in support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation & Expansion Project. As an educational partner, I see the excellent work the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is doing to increase the participation of underrepresented and first-generation students in the two key growth areas for Oregon employment: health care and high technology; both broadly defined.

As I'm sure you know by now our Science Building 1 trains more first-generation students, underrepresented minorities, veterans and Pell Grant recipients than any other similar building at any public university in Oregon. The proposed SB1 Project will enhance the quality of the education provided to these students, particularly those whose future career goals are in health- and STEM-related fields. There are three significant areas in which capital funding can greatly impact not only the lives of our students but the greater Oregon community. First, increased space designed to enhance the type of hands-on education required for training the 21st workforce. An example of the benefits of increased, purpose-built instructional space teaching space is the COOP Internship program we have inaugurated in cooperation with Oregon Physics, E Beam Inc., and other local high-tech companies. After students have completed our year-long Advanced Laboratory course, where they are trained in machine-computer interface, machine-level programming and other in-demand skills, they will be eligible for 3 to 9 month paid internships. The "paid" aspect of this is crucial for both students and host companies, and is only possible because of the training they receive in the Advanced Lab course. The proposed SB1 Project will allow us to more than double the number of students per year who can complete this course. Second, a home for the STEM Equity and Education Institute that furthers the potential for a diverse and innovative workforce. Co-localizing this Institute with the main teaching spaces for STEM education will increase its reach and impact with students who will benefit most from its activities. Finally, a space shared with industry partners that can provide a future beyond graduation will enhance retention of our graduates in metropolitan Portland and Oregon.

A cornerstone of PSU's training of future professionals in health- and STEM-related fields, the SB1 Project realizes a long-term goal of PSU to physically unite the many programs we have attracted and built to diversify and enhance the

workforce in these two fields in Oregon. Collectively BUILD EXITO, Louise Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), McNair Scholars, and Scholarships in STEM (S-STEM), make up the STEM Education and Equity Institute and serve well over 1,000 students. The Institute excels in serving first-generation students, low-income students, students of color, and students with experience in foster care, who make up over fifty percent of the students enrolled in STEM disciplines at PSU.

Currently our Science Building 1 is advancing and enhancing Oregon's STEM- and health-related workforce. It serves nearly 700 students, faculty and staff, and will serve many more with a higher quality educational experience with needed safety, seismic and system upgrades. With a modernized educational experience, that includes in-depth interaction with local employers, a majority of the graduates of the programs housed in Science Building 1 will continue their careers in Oregon in two of the state's fastest growing employment sectors.

Sincerely,

Drake C. Mitchell

Duke C Mitchell

Professor and Chair, Department of Physics

Co-Director BUILD EXITO Research Enrichment

Andrew G. Fountain 2804 NE Cesar E. Chavez Blvd Portland, OR 97212

12 February 2020

Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE, Rm. 269 Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney:

I am writing in support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation & Expansion Project. As an educational partner, I see the excellent work the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and its programs are doing to serve underrepresented and first-generation students in health- and STEM-related fields.

The current location of the Geology Department is in an old building that is probably not earthquake safe. Bare florescent light bulbs illuminate our halls and the main men's room has insufficient ventilation. Our facilities are woefully substandard, local public high schools have better classrooms, offices and student laboratories than our department. To serve our students appropriately requires better facilities, and a new SB1 will provide that opportunity.

Portland State University leads all other public universities in Oregon in the education of first-generation students, Underrepresented Minorities, veterans and Pell Grant recipients. The SB1 Project enhances opportunity and equity for students whose future career goals match two of the state's key occupational areas, health- and STEM-related fields. There are three significant areas in which capital funding can greatly impact not only the lives of our students but the greater Oregon community. First, a designed space that centers on transparent collaboration and modern lab facilities. Second, a home for the STEM Equity and Education Institute that furthers the potential for a diverse and innovative workforce. Finally, co-located industry partners that can provide a future beyond graduation. It represents advances in educational design and architecture, improvements in equitable and inclusive instructional modalities, and tools for modern research.

Sincerely,

and S. Fout

Andrew G. Fountain

Professor Emeritus and former Department Chair

Portland State University



Portland State University

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Post Office Box 751 Portland, Oregon 97207 150 XSB 1633 SW Park Ave. 503-725-5920 503-725-4003 fax www.pdx.nas

February 2020

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney,

I am writing in support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation & Expansion Project. As an educational partner at one of the city and state's premier economic engines, I see the excellent work the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and its programs are doing to serve underrepresented and first-generation students in health- and STEM-related fields. In particular, as the Chair of Indigenous Nations Studies at PSU, Oregon's home of the first major in our field, I am inspired and informed by the wonderful work our students, community, and faculty are doing in the areas of Indigenous Traditional Ecological & Cultural Knowledge (ITECK).

PSU's Science Building 1 leads all other public universities in Oregon in the education of first-generation students, underrepresented minorities, veterans and Pell Grant recipients. The SB1 Project enhances opportunity and equity for students whose future career goals match two of the state's key occupational areas, health- and STEM-related fields.

A cornerstone of PSU's access to health- and STEM- related fields, the SB1 Project realizes a long-term goal of PSU to physically unite BUILD EXITO, Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), McNair Scholars and Scholarships in STEM (S-STEM), which collectively make up the STEM Education and Equity Institute and serve well over 1,000 students. The Institute excels in serving first-generation students, low-income students and students of color, who make up over fifty percent of students enrolled in STEM disciplines at PSU.

I know first-hand how PSU's Science Building 1 is advancing our state's STEM- and health-related workforce priorities. It serves nearly 700 students, faculty and staff, and will serve many more with needed safety, seismic and system upgrades. Graduates of the programs housed in Science Building 1 continue their careers in the state and advance diversity in the science field. This vital investment will enhance and grow our relationships with the wider community,

including Tribal Nations as well as state, federal, county, and municipal partners. The renovation of SB1 is key to serving the modern educational needs of PSU's diverse undergraduate student body. In particular for our students in Indigenous Nations Studies, this renovation will greatly assist in growing and fulfilling both the need for understanding the vital relationships of themselves and our broader communities to the state of Oregon and our shared resources as well as the promise of an exceptional public education to better the world they are inheriting.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important project for PSU Students.

Sincerely yours,

Theodore C. Van Alst, Jr., Ph.D.

Theodone Ch

Interim Director, School of Gender Race and Nations Associate Professor and Chair, Indigenous Nations Studies Portland State University Portland, OR

97201

C: 860-617-0499 E: tva2@pdx.edu

Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Program

Portland State University 345 Cramer Hall Portland, Oregon 97201

503-725-2422 tel <u>lsamp@pdx.edu</u> email

February 11, 2020

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney,



I am writing in support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation & Expansion Project. As Program Manager for Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Program, I see first-hand the impact of the intentional efforts the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and its programs have on first-generation and underrepresented students in health- and STEM-related fields.

As an access institution, Portland State leads all other public universities in Oregon in the education of first-generation students, underrepresented students, veterans and Pell Grant recipients. The SB1 Project enhances opportunity and equitable access for students whose future career goals match two of the state's key occupational areas, health- and STEM-related fields. There are three significant areas in which capital funding can greatly impact not only the lives of our students but the greater Oregon community. First, a designed space that centers on transparent collaboration and modern lab facilities. Second, a home for the STEM Equity and Education Institute that furthers the potential for a diverse and innovative workforce. Finally, co-located industry partners that can provide a future beyond graduation. Overall, the SB1 project represents advances in educational design and architecture, improvements in equitable and inclusive instructional modalities, and tools for modern research. Enhanced opportunities for inclusive instruction, mentorship, and undergraduate research are especially important given their influence on building a students' scientific identity and their persistence in a STEM major.

A cornerstone of PSU's access to health- and STEM- related fields, the SB1 Project realizes a long-term goal of PSU to physically unite BUILD EXITO, LSAMP, McNair Scholars and Scholarships in STEM (S-STEM), which collectively make up the STEM Education and Equity Institute and serve well over 1,000 students. The Institute excels in serving first-generation students, low-income students, and students of color, who make up over fifty percent of students enrolled in STEM disciplines at PSU. These programs provide students with community, academic enrichment, and research opportunities that would be enhanced significantly through realization of the SB1 project.

PSU's Science Building 1 is advancing our state's STEM- and health-related workforce priorities. It serves nearly 700 students, faculty and staff, and will serve many more with needed safety, seismic and system upgrades. Graduates of the programs housed in Science Building 1 would boost their social mobility while contributing to a more diverse state workforce.

Sincerely,

Joyce Pieretti, Ph.D.

LSAMP Program Manager

Joyce Preside

Director of Recruitment, Diversity, Retention - MCECS

Portland State University

pieretti@pdx.edu



February 10, 2020

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney,

I am writing in support of Portland State University's (PSU) Science Building 1 (SB1) Renovation & Expansion Project. As an educational and industry partner, I see the excellent work PSU is doing through the STEM Education and Equity Institute, which serves well over 1,000 students and excels in educating first-generation students, low-income students and students of color, who make up over fifty percent of students enrolled in STEM disciplines at PSU.

As a technology company, we know that STEM-related education will be critical to the success of our future workforce. Skilled workers needs are changing in the digital age, and we strongly support public investment in programs and projects dedicated to helping all students prepare for the economy of the future. The SB1 Project will enhance opportunity and equity for students whose future career goals match two of Oregon's key occupational areas, health- and STEM-related fields. In particular, we are excited about the opportunity to better integrate the private sector with student education, through collaboration of co-located industry partners on the SB1 site. The SB1 Renovation & Expansion Project represents advances in educational design and architecture, improvements in equitable and inclusive instructional modalities, and tools for modern research.

Upgrading PSU's Science Building 1 will go a long way toward advancing the state's STEM- and health-related workforce priorities, while supporting opportunity and equity for countless students.

Sincerely,

Greg Fallon

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Greg Fallon

Vice President
Business Strategy & Marketing
Design & Manufacturing

600 NE Grand Ave. Portland, OR 97232-2736 oregonmetro.gov



February 12, 2020

House Speaker Tina Kotek 900 Court St. NE, Room 269 Salem, OR 97301

Senate President Peter Courtney 900 Court St. NE, S-201 Salem, OR 97301

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney,

On behalf of Metro's Parks and Nature Department, I am writing in support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation and Expansion Project. Through Metro's partnership with PSU and their Indigenous Nations Studies Department, I have seen firsthand the excellent work the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and its programs are doing to serve underrepresented and first-generation students in health- and STEM-related fields.

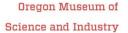
Indigenous Traditional Ecological and Cultural Knowledge (ITECK), generously shared with Metro through our partnership with PSU's Indigenous Nations Studies Department, seeks to bridge the gap between modern land management practices and traditional Indigenous ways of knowing how to restore the land on behalf of regional native flora and fauna, and to deepen understanding, knowledge, and engagement through seasonal harvests, culturally significant programming, and community engagement with tribal, urban Native and historically marginalized communities. The renovation of SB1 would directly support this important work and partnership and continue efforts to ensure that ITECK plays a significant role in regional planning – working to reclaim and protect the health of all people and the land.

Also, we know that PSU's Science Building 1 leads all other public universities in Oregon in the education of first-generation students, underrepresented minorities, veterans and Pell Grant recipients. The SB1 Renovation Project enhances opportunity and equity for students whose future career goals match two of the state's key occupational areas, health- and STEM-related fields. Central to Metro's partnership with PSU, the renovation of this important building will include Indigenous Sciences as a featured component. It will create labs for soil testing that support culturally responsible land and First Foods restoration, education, reclamation and protection practices. The renovation will also support Indigenous land management and policy development that are central to the Indigenous Nations Studies Department's core curricula and play key roles in creating a new generation of Indigenous leadership.

Through Metro's partnership with Portland State University we've seen first-hand how Science Building 1 is advancing our region's health- and STEM-related workforce priorities. It serves nearly 700 students, faculty and staff, and will serve many more with needed safety, seismic and system upgrades. Perhaps most importantly, graduates of the programs housed in Science Building 1 continue their careers in the state and advance much needed diversity in the fields of health, science and natural resource management.

Sincerely,

Jon Blasher, Director Parks and Nature



1945 SE Water Avenue Portland Oregon 97214 503 797 4000

omsi.edu

February 12, 2020

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney,

I am writing in support of Portland State University's Science Building 1 Renovation & Expansion Project. As an educational partner, I see the excellent work the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and its programs are doing to serve underrepresented and first-generation students in health- and STEM-related fields.

PSU's Science Building 1 leads all other public universities in Oregon in the education of first-generation students, Underrepresented Minorities, veterans and Pell Grant recipients. The SB1 Project enhances opportunity and equity for students whose future career goals match two of the state's key occupational areas, health-and STEM-related fields. There are three significant areas in which capital funding can greatly impact not only the lives of our students but the greater Oregon community. First, a designed space that centers on transparent collaboration and modern lab facilities. Second, a home for the STEM Equity and Education Institute that furthers the potential for a diverse and innovative workforce. Finally, colocated industry partners that can provide a future beyond graduation. It represents advances in educational design and architecture, improvements in equitable and inclusive instructional modalities, and tools for modern research.

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I know first-hand how PSU's Science Building 1 is advancing our state's STEM- and health-related workforce priorities. It serves nearly 700 students, faculty and staff, and will serve many more with needed safety, seismic and system upgrades. Graduates of the programs housed in Science Building 1 continue their careers in the state and advance diversity in the science field.

Sincerely,

Nancy Stueber
President and CEO

Hancy Dueber



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Jennifer Fox

jennifer.fox@autodesk.com

Director, Chief of Staff BSM-DM

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