

JTUSHE Exhibits

From: Melissa Scott <scottmel@pdx.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 10:53 AM
To: JTUSHE Exhibits
Subject: The way to best help students at PSU

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Dear Elected Officials,

The best ways to support PSU students :

1. Unprivatize our school. At the moment the school is VERY private and this has been exacerbated since the calendar year of 2013 and has only worsened to the effect that the board which was created around that time predominately does not support students but advocates for profit over the wellbeing of students. Many of us since that time have fiercely pointed this out and have asked for help on changing this aspect of our PUBLIC school. It's above 90 percent privatized so any help on this change would be extremely beneficial to both the students and their professors who would like a more equitable and public provided school.
2. Internet becoming a common good especially after the pandemic and that anyone paying also should not have to deal with the monopoly created in the internet industry.
3. That chipping away of classism and racism is continued until both are non existent for Oregon.
4. That more people are eligible for OHP. Our insurance that is very hard to waive is a steep price tag that grows our student loan consumption. If we were to become eligible for OHP, then we would see a lower PSU bill and this would be a significant amount of fee reduction.
5. Supporting stress reduction measures and not simply ways of coping with stress because stress will become a business and not a dealt with problem any other way.
6. Public transit to become public transit because students take more than the street car to school.
7. More public sector job openings for after we graduate.
8. Disaster measures becoming more transparent and open to the public so when disaster strikes we know the best course of action and can help our communities such as our school survive.
9. Continue championing Housing a problem because we could be headed for the 2008 foreclosures and we are seeing a rise in rent. An immunocompised student saw just below 10 percent increase in rent when the mask removal was announced at the beginning of this month or March 2, 2022. For students this makes life much more difficult because you've already bought school so there's not much in a budget to cut when rent rises. Therefore, the fear of houselessness if not becoming real takes over our minds that should be focused on doing well in school. Furthermore, our homes should not just be an affordable price tag but should not be built with insulation problems that would hike up a power bill like my current apartment or be a health hazard because of where it is and how its built.
10. Connecting more students to farmers markets perhaps adding students to the double up food bucks program. Food insecurity still plagues students and our PSU farmers market should become more inclusive of students.
11. Safer pathways to walk in Oregon because pedestrian and bicyclist deaths and injuries are high.
12. Safer privacy measures around the internet and apps we use. Students and the the public should not be worried about data mining and should be able to embrace technology without fear because it is becoming more necessary. Our private information should no longer be for sale. Tech companies and third parties are a problem that I ask you to protect us from.

Thank you for your time and your support of students at PSU.

Best,

Mel Scott

PSU Alumni and current Graduate student of PSU

