

Hello members of the ways and means committee,

My name is Brooke Schlaud and I attend the UO. I am asking you to support the Oregon Opportunity Grant. I currently do not receive this grant.

After school, I plan to join the Peace Corps, then work to pay off loans and until i can find a fulfilling job. With the high cost of attendance, I had no option but to take loans out to attend and work extremely hard for my scholarship. I moved across the country and took out student loans for myself to attend UO. I am living completely on my own, which makes me sacrifice a lot in itself. I am constantly stressed about money which makes it tough to do my schoolwork a lot of the times.

Please remember my story as you work with your colleagues to set the budget for the next biennium, and please invest \$290 M in the Oregon Opportunity Grant. Thank you.