College News

1. Update on NWCCU status & impact on summer students: As addressed in last month’s board meeting, NWCCU requested additional information from OCCC and PCC in order to make a decision on the extension of accreditation to OCCC under the new agreement with PCC. As a result, summer students were not eligible for Financial Aid. The alternative supports offered by the college were very successful, and only 4 students withdrew for financial reasons. Our final total summer FTE was 26.58, compared with 40.87 for summer 2013. For a variety of reasons, our total summer offerings were intentionally lower in 2014.

2. In regards to a decision from NWCCU, we are now within the time window of the promised response (between August 15 and September 1). A decision by September 1 provides a sufficient cushion in order to process and award FA for Fall students. As of today, the status of our application to NWCCU is “Prospectus is currently under review by Commissioners, and there is no request for further information.”

3. Fall Enrollments: due to multiple changes in the student registration timing and process, it is very difficult to compare last year to this year. The closest comparison we can use is registrations tied to days before the start of the term.
4. We have some nice updates on our 2014 Nursing graduates: 89% the NCLEX pass rate on the first attempt, 62% were employed by SHS, with 67% employed within 6 weeks of graduation. The nursing program received a grant for $3,241 from the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Charitable Contribution Fund to upgrade and replace equipment used for teaching maternity care in the skills lab.

5. All OCCC Managers are participating in a full-day planning retreat tomorrow.

**Community College Support Fund**
On August 11, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission released their recommendation to the Governor for the funding of Oregon public Higher Education. The HECC budget documents have been posted on the HECC website at [http://education.oregon.gov/Pages/HECC-Meeting-Materials.aspx](http://education.oregon.gov/Pages/HECC-Meeting-Materials.aspx)

The HECC recommended level of funding for the 15-17 support fund is $519 million. For 13-15, the CCSF was $465 million. General consensus among Oregon CC’s, this recommendation is a step in the right direction, but is not a reinvestment budget that would support the ambitious goals of 20/40/40. There are many more steps before the state has a final budget, and OCCA, OPC and individual presidents will continue to advocate for funding aligned with goals throughout the legislative process.

**My External Engagement**
City of Lincoln, mayor & city manager
Lincoln City Rotary
Oregon Presidents Council annual retreat
Achieving the Dream Workshop
OSU Mid-Valley Regional Achievement Collaborative
Meetings with individual Board members
Pending: Port of Toledo

**Media:** Betsy Hammond of the Oregonian is working on a story regarding our summer students and Financial Aid impacts.