

President's Report to the Board of Education
Debra H. Thatcher, President
November 14, 2018

Governance. Recommendations for modifications to the governance model launched last year have been enacted. Most significant among the changes are implementing a systematic way for governance groups to communicate with College Council and requiring all governance groups to identify one to three major goals for the year.

Strategic Plan. We are finalizing timelines and assignments of responsibility for the strategic plan. Already underway is implementation of FISH!, new enrollment management practices, and efficiencies in multiple operational areas.

Budget Preparation. We have begun preparation to develop the FY 2020 budget. Training sessions have been held with budget managers, a budget forum was presented to campus to explain our current status and matters anticipated for next year, a timeline has been established, and the role of the Institutional Effectiveness Council in budget development is under discussion. This is a year of uncertainty as we move into the legislative biennium session; we lack the predictability of next year's state allocation as we do during the second year of the biennium. As a reminder, HECC has requested a \$787M budget for all community colleges. Of that amount, \$647M is to maintain the current service level, an amount based upon actual data from all 17 community colleges; this amount contrasts with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services which uses a formula rather than actual costs to determine current service level funding (the DAS amount is \$590M). In addition, HECC has requested an additional \$70M to double the number of CTE graduates in areas of most need in Oregon, and another \$70M to increase the success rate of first generation students. It is crucial for business leaders, community members, plus community college boards, administrators, faculty, staff, and students (collectively and individually) to advocate for increased funding from the state in order to help keep tuition rates from precipitous increases, allow community colleges to fulfill our mission and enhance social mobility, and allow a full range of services that contribute to student success.

The Bald Futurist. The OCCA Conference, November 8-9, included a provocative speaker whose ideas will be important to consider as we work to achieve our vision to become a model for innovative education. Steve Brown, a former Intel futurist, spoke about how technologies will shape the near future (5-15 years) and what we might do to take advantage of those changes. After sharing how artificial intelligence, autonomous machines, blockchain, and augmented reality are already changing our world, he presented his ideas on reimagining education for the future. He urged shifting to use of 21st century technologies, new media, business partnerships, internships, and personalized learning experiences. He predicts high risk for the disappearance of jobs that are repetitive or diagnostic in nature (from farm laborers and surveyors to brokers, accountants, paralegals, and drivers), while predicting low risk for jobs that require empathy, human interaction, creativity, and variety (from nursing and engineers to chief executives, microbiologists, curators, and foresters). He advocated for an interdisciplinary curriculum centered on big problems with complex solutions with emphases on creativity, curiosity, imagination, ideas, critical thinking, empathy, interpersonal skills, leadership, teamwork, entrepreneurialism, systems thinking, adaptability, and grit.