



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

March 29, 2011

The Honorable John Kitzhaber  
900 Court Street NE Room 254  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Kitzhaber:

Thank you for meeting to discuss higher education reform and for your follow-up letter. I, too, am pleased that there is general alignment between our respective policy agendas, and I am optimistic that the first steps toward comprehensive reform can be taken this session. As I said in our meeting, the University of Oregon fully supports the creation of the Oregon Education Investment Board, and we are ready to help see that this first critical step is adopted now.

I appreciate your encouragement to continue advancing our ideas about local governing boards, endowment partnerships, and tuition certainty. We will continue to work with you, the legislature, and other higher education leaders to refine these proposals for consideration in 2012. I am heartened that you think our ideas advance the greater mission of our educational system, and that you agree that real change is critical to the long-term success of our public university system and our state's future. We are committed to helping you enact these changes, and we look forward to an interim discussion about the concepts in SB 559 and SJR 20. Too much is at stake to stop now.

Your leadership on education reform is very much appreciated. The University of Oregon is a ready partner in the steps that need to be taken now, in the interim, and in the 2012 session to enact meaningful reform. I look forward to working with you and others to make Oregon a national leader in education at every level.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Lariviere  
President

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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