

Oregon IFS website <http://oregonifs.org/> for agendas, minutes, members, etc.

Busy legislative season.

1. HB 2998 – has moved to joint ways and means. Regardless of HB 2998, HECC is highly motivated to make transfers feasible and doable and retain the needs of the majors, with faculty at the table.
2. IFS recommending partnership with HECC to convene a meeting on transfer issues in Portland with 2-year and 4-year Academic Advisors and Faculty Advisors in Fall 2017 to tackle easy first steps and frame more challenging next steps such as prioritizing programs on which to develop transfer articulation agreements.
3. SB 207 mandating academic credit for AP score of 3 or above. In large part to lobbying from Provost's council this has been modified to allow HECC to review institutional policies for accepting AP credit. Statewide workgroup has been working, but rather than a required mandate a request for HECC to review per institution.
4. PERS – OSU HR has put together a resource regarding proposed PERS changes <http://hr.oregonstate.edu/benefits/current-employees/pension-plans-retirement-savings/pers-2017-updates>

Higher Education Budget:

1. Higher Ed low on list of priorities. Four-years not seen as affecting what OR needs like the 2-years, which are viewed as the job force. Four year students are being hit the hardest when it comes to funding.
2. Legislators want to hear from students. Rallying students to focus on \$100 million ask for higher education should be priority. At local level, reaching out to local representatives should be powerful voice.

Tuition increases:

1. Recent HECC meeting re: tuition increases was very contentious and challenging.
2. OSU asked for below 5% threshold. WOU (7.5), SOU (11.4), OIT(7.4) successful, PSU (8.4), UO (11.5) turned down.
3. Student voices were an enormous factor in the success or failure of proposals at HECC.
4. Students, Faculty, Boards, etc. can contact their legislators to share the value of quality Higher education.

HECC openings:

1. Some HECC member positions are phasing out – can apply through Governor's website and also view timelines for phase out of future members.
2. HECC is also looking for a faculty member in the Joint Transfer Articulation Committee and IFS has been asked to forward a nominee.