Legislature Adjourns--Finally!

By Tim Black

The 2003 session of the Oregon Legislature ended Aug. 27, bringing to a close the longest session in the state's history. The Governmental Affairs "2003 State Legislative Report" is available at <oga.uoregon.edu>. Highlights from the report include the following:

* The Legislature approved the Higher Education Efficiency Act (SB 437), the cornerstone of the initiative known as the "New Partnership With Oregon." SB 437 gives OUS campuses the tools to operate with greater flexibility and efficiency.

* The Legislature made a significant capital investment in a Signature Research Center at the University of Oregon, Oregon State University and Portland State University.

* The Legislature approved $58 million in Article XI-F Bonds (fee backed bonds) for the UO Health and Counseling Center, University Housing, the new Living Learning Center, residence hall restoration, and a parking structure.

* The Legislature approved transferring the functions of the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission to the UO School of Law and the PSU Hatfield School of Government, and allocated $125,000 to each school for the 2003-05 biennium to administer the program.

Now the bad news: the legislatively approved operating budget for...
the Oregon University System is $93 million less than the Governor's original proposed budget. The final Legislatively Approved Budget will mean the UO will have a significant deficit.

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Tim Black is advocacy director in Governmental Affairs.

UO Sponsored Research $78m Total Sets Record

By Ross West

UO faculty earned $77.8 million in research grants and awards for the 2002-03 fiscal year, setting a new record for the second consecutive year.

Nearly $70 million came from federal agencies—the most competitive arena for scientific funding. Health and Human Services and Education grants totaled $25.3 million and $22.7 million, respectively. The National Science Foundation awarded UO researchers $12.4 million, a 13.5 percent increase over the previous year's funding level.

"For our faculty to perform so well this year on the heels of a 30-percent growth year in 2001-02 and at a time when other financial support has decreased is a testament to the collective strength of our researchers," says Vice President Richard Linton, Research and Graduate Studies.

"Not only does their work contribute significantly to the global body of knowledge, but their studies also validate the UO's position as a leading public research university," he adds.

Since FY 2000-01, UO research funding has grown by nearly $20 million. The increase was fueled largely by significant growth in awards from federal agencies, such as Education, which grew by 18 percent in 2002-03.

This year's overall 3.6 percent increase in sponsored research is indicative of an ongoing upward trend in grants and awards won by UO researchers. Total awards to the UO for the past 10 years exceed half a billion dollars—$570 million.

UO sponsored research funding is particularly significant in the context of falling state revenues. In FY 2002-03, the State of Oregon provided $69.6 million in General Fund money to help pay for all UO expenditures.

ON THE PODIUM

John Orbell, Political Science emeritus, presented "Machiavellian Intelligence and the Evolution of Cooperation" at a June workshop at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan.

Events

For more about University events, visit the Calendar of Events.
Linton points out that awards and contracts earned by UO faculty also help Oregon's economy.

"According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, for every $1 million in sponsored research performed in Oregon, 40 jobs are supported," he says.

Of the $77.8 million in grants and contracts received by the UO in 2002-03, more than 70 percent is for research, 21 percent will be used for community service and 8 percent will be used for instruction.

Ross West is science writer and assistant director of Media Relations.

IO Goes Electronic

This copy of Inside Oregon is the last to be printed primarily on paper.

Beginning Monday, Oct. 13, Inside Oregon will arrive in your e-mailbox each Monday. Issues will continue to be archived at <comm.uoregon.edu/inside/>.

The new IO will be sent in an HTML-enhanced version, but you can elect to receive a plain-text version sans formatting and graphics.

Also, a new, single-page Inside Oregon Highlights will be distributed monthly to all faculty, staff and GTFs.

Your editor welcomes feedback on the changes. Send comments from the link at the top of the new e-mailed Inside Oregon, or to <inside@oregon.uoregon.edu>.

Fiske Guide Calls UO 'Best Deal' On West Coast

The University of Oregon may be the best deal in public higher education on the West Coast, according to the "Fiske Guide to Colleges 2004."

For the sixth year in a row, the UO is listed among the select places in the nation where students and families can get the best value for their education dollar. It is the only public campus on the West Coast to qualify as a "Best Buy" based on the high quality of its
academic offerings in relation to the relatively inexpensive cost of attendance.


Of the more than 35 departments in Arts and Sciences, students give high marks to Psychology and Biology. Among the college's science departments that offer students many opportunities for research, the guide singles out Chemistry as one of the strongest programs.

The UO's quality of life earns a four-star rating from students. They award three stars to campus social life and three and one-half stars to academics.

The UO Libraries system remains the best in the state, according to the guide, and students say the Career Center is "first-rate." They also praise the Clark Honors College.

The surveyed students hold in high regard all of the University of Oregon's professional schools—Architecture and Allied Arts, Business, Education, Journalism and Communication, Law and Music—but they give the most praise to the journalism and business programs. The publication singles out the UO Architecture program in a separate guide to preprofessional programs with "unusual strength."

Chamber Music Series Offers Discounts

The Chamber Music Series, one of the most distinguished components of Music's annual concert schedule, is offering a 20-percent discount to UO faculty and staff who are new series subscribers.

The series' 36th season consists of five concerts featuring world-class chamber music artists. Included are the Amati String Quartet (Oct. 9); The Amelia Piano Trio (Nov. 13); I Musici de Montreal (Jan. 8); the world-famous Juilliard String Quartet (Feb. 5); and The New Century Saxophone Quartet (March 11).

Staff and faculty discounted prices for season tickets are $41, $92 or $108, depending on the seating area in Beall Hall. Purchase season subscriptions at the Hult Center, 682-5000.

For information and a CMS brochure, call 6-5678.
**Electronic Catalog Posted on Web**

The 2003-4 University of Oregon Catalog is now on-line at [darkwing.uoregon.edu/~uopubs/bulletin/](http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~uopubs/bulletin/). Links to the catalog should update automatically. If they don't, contact Frances Milligan, editor, 6-2223; [pubfranc@oregon](mailto:pubfranc@oregon).

**Key Orders Made Easy**

To quickly and easily order keys, log on to [safetyweb.uoregon.edu](http://safetyweb.uoregon.edu), click on the far right image, choose the "advanced key order form" link and follow the instructions. Bring a deposit and UO identification to pick them up in 24 to 48 hours. For information, call 6-5446 or e-mail [bvaughan@dpsnet](mailto:bvaughan@dpsnet).

**Volunteer Confab Set**

Neighbors In Action is a volunteer conference set from 1-5 p.m. and from 6-9 p.m. on Oct. 10 at Eugene Faith Center, 1410 W. 13th Ave. at Polk. Community leaders organized the free event in response to the severe budget cuts in health, human services and education. Participants will learn about the immediate need for help and how to volunteer. To register or for more information, visit [www.unitedwaylane.org](http://www.unitedwaylane.org) or call 741-6000.

Each issue of Inside Oregon is archived on the web at [http://comm.uoregon.edu/inside/archive.php](http://comm.uoregon.edu/inside/archive.php). If this issue displays improperly, please go there for the correct version.

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Dates of upcoming issues, with copy and calendar deadlines, are posted at [IO Deadlines](http://comm.uoregon.edu/inside/archive.php).

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