OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY

Provost Office

Mail code: L101
3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Rd.
Portland, OR 97239-3098
Tel 503 494-4460
Fax 503 494-8935
www.ohsu.edu

Jeanette Mladenovic, MD, MBA, MACP
Provost, VP for Academic Affairs
mladenov@ohsu.edu

David W. Robinson PhD
Executive Vice Provost
robinsda@ohsu.edu

March 28, 2012

Governor John Kitzhaber, Chair
Oregon Education Investment Board
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Kitzhaber,

At the March 27th Oregon Education Investment Board meeting, questions were raised about the Oregon Health & Science University achievement compact. After conversations with Mr. Saxton and Mr. Nesbitt, it was determined those questions are most efficiently and effectively addressed in a letter.

Mr. Saxton acknowledged the value of measuring the number of nursing bachelor degrees awarded towards the state's 40-40-20 goal, but questioned whether it was necessary to measure the number of Oregonians admitted to the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. We appreciate Mr. Saxton's concerns, and originally raised similar questions during the crafting of Senate Bill 1581.

However, working with Mr. Nesbitt during the February short session, OHSU crafted specific statutory language for achievement compacts that measures the state's investment in our education programs. Senate Bill 1581 specifically states that the terms of an achievement compact for OHSU "be limited to the enrollment of, and attainment of degrees by, Oregon residents in programs for which the state provides funding" Section 14, (3) (c). The state provides general funds to OHSU for its education mission, and those funds help support the School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, and the School of Nursing. While the majority of the degrees obtained are at the graduate level, OHSU believes it is important to track the outcomes associated with the state funds—without making a distinction between the undergraduate and graduate levels. In fact, only tracking the undergraduate degrees underestimates what outcomes the state helps fund.

As a result, the law outlines the criteria to be included in the OHSU achievement compact based on the education programs that the state funds. OHSU's leadership team has reviewed the legislation and the compact, and is comfortable with the language that was approved by the Oregon Education Investment Board.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Mladenovic, MD, MBA, MACP
Provost, VP Academic Affairs

David Robinson, PhD
Executive Vice Provost