

MEETING #379
OREGON STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
Wednesday, January 8, 2009

CONFERENCE CALL

COMMISSIONERS

Bridget Burns, Chair
Cap Sharples, Vice-Chair
Mike Filippelli
Brian Lemos
Dean Wendle
Philip Shilts
Bart Howard

STAFF

Dennis Johnson, Executive Director
Beverly Boyd, Support Staff
Susan Degen, Oregon Opportunity Grant Administrator
Claire Matese, Policy Research Coordinator

GUESTS

Margie Lowe – Governor's Office
Bob Kieran – Oregon University System
Tracy Reisinger – Marylhurst University
Tom Hojem – Oregon Student Association
Cherie Honnell – Oregon Health & Science University
Marilyn Bader – Portland Community College
Dave McDonald – Western Oregon University
Richard Heath – Linfield College
Nathan Warthan – Corban

Emilio Vigil – Oregon State University
Lisa Pinheiro – Oregon University System
Crisanne Werner – Linfield College
Elizabeth Bickford – University of Oregon
Joshua Puhn – University of Oregon
Jen – University of Oregon
John Snyder – Linn-Benton Community College
Patty Hoban – Willamette University
Brett Rowlett – Lane Community College

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bridget Burns called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Having a quorum, the meeting proceeded.

PROPOSED REDUCTIONS TO OPPORTUNITY GRANT

The meeting commenced with Dennis Johnson reading Gary Andeen's motion from the Steering Committee, who met earlier today (January 8, 2009). Discussion continued around the equitableness of the different percentage split scenarios, the two-tiered approach and the possibility of an additional reduction this year. There is no data at this time to show which sectors will have the greatest impact. There is some disadvantage to all sectors as all sectors serve very high-need students. All agreed that the reduction must be sufficient to cover any additional shortfalls.

Margie Lowe from the Governor's Office stated that this should be looked at as a way to learn for future decisions and there must be principles developed to make these decisions. Need to charge staff and Steering Committee with creating ways for funding to go up and down in a fair and equitable way.

Several Commissioners agreed that there is no data at present to make these decisions but do agree that having a process in place for the increase and decrease of future funding is very important. Staff will work on collecting this data for future decisions. There is no time to pull it together for this reduction.

Commissioner Burns stated that she would be recusing herself from the vote. Commissioners Bart Howard, Cap Sharples and Dean Wendle all stated they thought this was not appropriate and unfair to the rest of the Commission.

Commissioner Sharples made a motion to adopt the recommendation from the Steering Committee of a sector-neutral award reduction of \$80 fulltime students and \$40 halftime students. Commissioner Bart Howard seconded the motion. A poll was taken and the motion was approved with a 4-3 vote. Commissioners Cap Sharples, Brian Lemos, Bart Howard and Bridget Burns voted yea; Commissioners Philip Shilts, Dean Wendle and Mike Filippelli voted nay.

A press release, and messages for students and financial aid officers, will be drafted and sent to the Commission and Governor's Office for review before published for public viewing.

Dennis Johnson stated that the Commission should consider some of the recommendations that came out of this process.

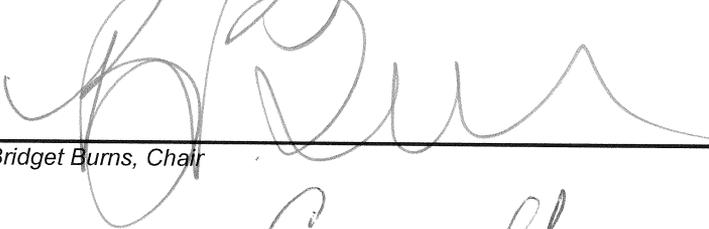
ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Commissioner Howard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sharples seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

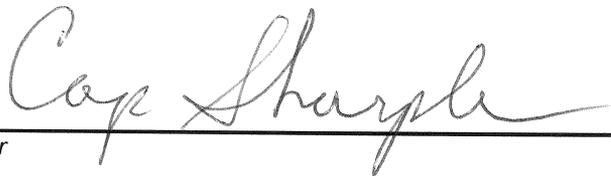
Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Johnson, Executive Director



Bridget Burns, Chair



Cap Sharples, Vice-Chair



Mike Filippelli, Commissioner



Brian Lemos, Commissioner



Philip Shilts, Commissioner



Dean Wendle, Commissioner