From: salem_update-bounces@lists.oregonstate.edu on behalf of Mills, Jock
To: CAS DeanStaff; CAS Unit Leaders; Salem Update Listserv
Subject: [Salem Update] Oregonian Editorial
Date: Monday, June 16, 2008 2:19:16 PM
Attachments: ATT8865855.txt
ole0.bmp

In case you were too wrapped up in commencement activities and missed the Sunday *Oregonian*, here is a link to an editorial column by David Sarasohn on the state salary pool:

http://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/david_sarasohn/index.ssf?/base/editorial/1213404913212650.xml&coll=7

Most intriguing in the column is the following quote:

"There will be no program cuts. There shouldn't be any at all," promises state Sen. Kurt Schrader, D-Canby, co-chair of the Ways and Means Committee and also Democratic nominee for Congress from the district including Oregon State. Moreover, "I'm not asking them to hold positions open. We've identified other savings."

We have no idea what those other savings are -- unless the legislature considers ending fund balances as "savings."

Most insiders say now that the Oregon University System -- along with other state agencies -- will likely lose 25% of the salary pool. The driving issues are concerns over the stability of the most recent revenue forecast, and potential cost increases in the Department of Human Services. Rather than going into a special session to rebalance the state budget, legislators have determined the better course is to use the Salary Pool as a rebalancing mechanism.

If the 25 percent cut sticks, here are the estimated dollar losses across OUS:

Eastern Oregon University: $323K
Oregon Institute of Technology: $378K
Oregon State University: $1.7M
Agriculture Experiment Station: $720K
Extension Service: $538K
Forest Research Lab: $61K
Total for OSU: $3.019M
Portland State University: $1.2M
Southern Oregon University: $370K
University of Oregon: $1.3M
Chancellor's Office: $167K

Let me know if you have questions or concerns.

Jock

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Jock Mills
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Director, Government Relations

524 Kerr Administration Building
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 737-0725
http://oregonstate.edu/