From:	Cusack, Kate
To:	Ray, Ed; Mills, Jock
Cc:	Bene, Heather
Subject:	FW: here is some info on OSU
Date:	Friday, March 20, 2009 2:18:52 PM

Ed and Jock-

Merkley's office had asked for some info on OSU to prepare for the pre-town hall meet and greet with Ed and a few others from OSU (Jock, Meleah Ashford, and Annette Von Jouanne). I sent him the email below. I thought you may like to see it too.

Give Dan and Merkley my best!

-Kate

From: Cusack, Kate
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 2:13 PM
To: Whelan, Dan (Merkley)
Subject: here is some info on OSU

Hey- sorry it's taken me time to get back to you. I had meetings then traffic court- sucks.

Anyhow, here's some info for you and your boss.

Let me know if you need anything else.

-Kate

Recent happenings at OSU:

FY09 Omnibus:
OSU is very thankful for Senator Merkley's support of the FY09 Omnibus Package. Despite the financial difficulties the nation is facing, with the leadership of the Oregon Delegation, OSU has done extremely well, securing the following marks (see below). Please note that some of these projects are shared with other universities.

I think your boss would be keenly interested in the **wave energy** award that supplements the competitive dollars OSU receives from DOE. As you will recall, OSU won the recent DOE competition and now formally houses the Northwest National Marine Renewable Energy Center. The only other center in the nation is housed at U. Hawaii. The center is funded for $1.25 million/year for five years. Funds will be spent to build up to five mobile test berths for companies to test their wave energy generation devices (buoys) and will fund the studies of potential environmental impacts of such devices. Meleah Ashford was recently named the Project Manager for the Northwest National Marine Renewable Energy Center. Both Meleah and Annette Von Jouanne (the brainchild of wave energy) will be at the meet and greet before the town hall.

The **Klamath River Disease Research** project studies the death of juvenile salmon in the Klamath River and is a joint project with OSU, the tribes, fisherman and farmers. It's a great project and this is the first year that it has been funded.

All the **agriculture projects** are great and have strong support from the agricultural community and **ONAMI** is also important, it was funded through the DOD bill.

1. Wave Energy @ $2,331,175
2. Klamath River Salmon Research @ $640,000
3. Grass Seed Cropping @ $313,000 (shared)
4. Meadowfoam @ $180,000
5. Mulluscan Shellfish @ $253,000
6. Multi-Commodity Research @ $244,000
7. Barley Genome Mapping @ $471,000 (shared)
8. Small Fruit Research @ $307,000 (shared)
9. Organic Cropping Research @ 140,000
10. STEEP @ $444,000 (shared)
11. Wood Utilization @ $4,545,000 (shared)
12. Potato Research @ $1,037,000 (shared)
13. Endophyte Toxicosis @ $994,000 (shared)
14. Bioremediation @ $111,000 (shared)

The Federal Recovery Package

OSU is very supportive of the recovery package. It appears that although some recovery dollars within the package were intended for higher education, that in Oregon, we will not see such funds. This is a point of contention.

Higher education will benefit from the recovery bill through the student access and scientific research portions of the bill.

Student Access:

The package will help students during this economic downturn. The law includes:

- A $500 increase in the Pell maximum (increasing maximum award from the current $4,731 to $5,350 in 2009 and $5,550 by 2010);
- A new $2,500 education tax credit, 40 percent of which would be refundable (called the American Opportunity Tax Credit, which replaces and expands the current Hope Scholarship Tax Credit for two years);
- $200 million for the work-study program; and,
- $100 million for teacher enhancement grants.

Scientific Research:

In this package, Congress also recognized the importance of science and research in promoting

both short- and long-term economic growth. Below are preliminary funding levels. The agencies are in the process of putting out guidance for RFP response. OSU has an aggressive plan and will capitalize on all competitive grant opportunities that we are eligible for.

- $3.0 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF); including $400 million for MREFCs; $100 million for Education; $15 million for Professional Science Masters
- $10.4 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), including a $400-million transfer from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ);
- $2.0 billion for research at the Department of Energy (DOE), including $1.6 billion for Science and $400 million for Advanced Research Project Agency-Energy (ARPA-E);
- $780 million for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), including $360 million for a competitive research facilities construction program;
- $836 million for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), including $280 million for NOAA research; and,
- $1 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), including $400 million and $150 million, respectively, for NASA science and aeronautics programs.

Overall Fiscal Outlook

The state legislature is working with an assumed budget deficit of over $5 billion for the next biennium. This requires OSU to attempt to manage through a 30 percent budget cut due to state revenue shortfalls. These cuts will be felt by both the OSU main campus and statewide public service programs. This will be extremely challenging. And this is occurring at a time when enrollment is increasing and is projected to continue to increase. We are very thankful for the increases to federal competitive programs because we will need this money more than ever.

Jane Lubchenco Confirmed

Jane Lubchenco was confirmed this week as the Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Director of NOAA. OSU is very proud of Jane and her accomplishment and eager to see her excel in her new role with the Administration.

Beaver Basketball

On March 18 the OSU Men's Basketball team beat Houston 49-45 in the first round of the College Basketball Invitational tournament. The game included a dunk by Seth Tarver featured as one of ESPN's top 10 plays of the day. OSU will host Vermont in the quarterfinals of the tournament on Monday at 7pm. If the Beavers win on Monday, they will play again on Wednesday. The Coaches and staff head to the Final Four on April 3rd.

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