

# Higher Education Costs: A Brief Summary

### Oregon University System Chancellor's Office

Jay Kenton, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration February 15, 2012



# **State funding and tuition**

- State funding per student is single largest factor in determining tuition rates each year
- State funding per student has been declining Oregon ranks 44<sup>th</sup> in the country in state funding per student\*
- Tuition has been increasing –Oregon ranks 20<sup>th</sup> in the country in annual resident undergraduate tuition and fees per student\*
- Over the last twenty years, resident undergraduate tuition has increased an average of nearly 6% per year
- Adjusted for inflation, Oregon receives 18% less funding (State \$ plus tuition \$)per student today compared to 1990







## Average Costs of Instruction Per FTE Student 1996-2012 – up 55% (CPI +45%)

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Average Costs of Instruction per Student FTE (+55%) vs. Portland Consumer Price Index (+45%)



# Types of Faculty: A Driver of Costs and Quality

- Full-time faculty are essential in maintaining the curriculum, student advising, and performing other functions that are critical to conducting the business of the institutions and in maintaining quality
  - Part-time faculty working less than .50 FTE are not eligible for health benefits
  - Fixed term and part-time faculty have higher teaching loads than full-time tenure track faculty
  - Tenure/Tenure Track faculty are expected to contribute in instruction, research, public service and administrative functions, whereas fixed term and part-time faculty are generally more specialized
- Given the increased demand in the face of declining per student resources institutions have struggled to maintain an appropriate balance of faculty



#### Oregon University System Instructional Faculty Headcount 1996-2012 Full-time - +27%; Part-time - +168%



#### Students per Full-time Faculty Fall Term Each Year



#### Oregon University System Costs of Retirement and Healthcare 2002-2012



## **Benefit Costs Compared to National Peers**

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- According to AAUP (The Annual Report on the Economic Status of the Profession, 2012):
  - Public Institutions Average:
    - Retirement 10.6% of salary (OUS = 18% and could increase to 24%)
    - Healthcare Contributions \$10,351/covered employee (OUS = \$14,940)
  - Private Institutions Average
    - Retirement 9.1% (OUS = 20%)
    - Healthcare Contributions \$10,825/covered employee (OUS = \$14,940)
  - Total Benefits as a % of Salary
    - Public 29.7% (OUS = 49.6%)
    - Private 27.9% (OUS = 49.6%)
- When using % salary calculations bear in mind that OUS salaries are lower than national peer groups, thus inflating our contributions when expressed as a percent of salary



# Thank you. Questions?

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