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April 12, 2017

Senator Fred Girod Representative Paul Holvey Co-chairs, Ways and Means Capital Construction Subcommittee 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for Oregon Tech's Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology / Cornett Renovation, Phase 2

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Holvey,

The Klamath County Chamber of Commerce fully supports for Oregon Tech's capital construction project: the Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology/Cornett Hall Renovation.

The Chamber works with a variety of organizations to attract, retain, grow and start companies in rural Klamath County. Oregon Tech is a critical partner in our economic and community development strategies and is a significant talent development engine for the region.

According to a recent Economic Impact Analysis by EcoNorthwest, our Klamath community benefits from \$75M in total annual output in Klamath County from Oregon Tech. This kind of direct economic impact to a rural community cannot be overstated. The Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology/Cornett Hall Renovation will also directly benefit our community, contribute to local jobs, and attract and keep students in our community who will become the next generation of employees, business owners, and inventors. The center is vital to, and specifically addresses the needs of future economic growth and will help move our community to a more stable and diversified economy.

We encourage you to support the Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology / Cornett Hall Renovation, and urge you to ensure that Oregon Tech's Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology is ranked high on the prioritized list.

Thank you in advance for your support of Oregon Tech and its capital construction priorities.

Sincerely,

Heather Tramp

Executive Director, Klamath County Chamber of Commerce

541-884-5193

heathert@klamath.org