

President's CoCo Update
January 14, 2022

Welcome to 2022! We are all tired of hearing it (and saying it) but let's collectively hope that this will be a brighter year for our students, the college, and all of us. Already it is a busy year.

Technology Enhancements Continue

Oregon Coast Community College now has an updated computer classroom for online learning, thanks to a donation from the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contributions Fund, and the work of Spencer Smith (IT Director) who made the grant application. The News Times press release was written by our new staff member, Julia Ryan, who will provide support to Marketing and the Foundation. Also this week, the News Times published our Honor Roll.

Enrollment continues a slow but steady recovery.

We have now recovered approximately 30 FTE year to date over this time last year. Much of our recovery & growth has been in CTE, for example, we have a full welding class. 21 continuing students and 11 new students (ages range from 17 to 62).

Our Office of Civil Rights review finally closed

(A big part of the delay was the OCR going on hiatus for much of the pandemic, added on top of already long turn around times. It is a relief to have this completed.)

Dear President Ryslunge,

Please find attached a letter notifying you that Oregon Coast Community College has completed the corrective actions from the June 2018 civil rights visit. We wish to extend our thanks to your college for the diligent efforts you have made to improve access to quality education to all of your students. We particularly want to extend accolades to Andres Oroz, who was a pleasure to work with and has been incredibly responsive throughout this process.

Sincerely,



Oregon achieves . . . together!

OREGON
DEPARTMENT
OF
EDUCATION

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Omicron Surge & Safety Standards

December and January turned out to be quite challenging due to a surge in cases from the Omicron variant. For how OCCC is managing the surge, please review the Jan 12 email from HR, Winter Term 2022 - [Instructional Update and COVID Reminders](#)

The Supreme Court challenge to the federal employer vaccine or test mandate brought uncertainty. Yesterday's ruling struck down the federal mandate, and late yesterday Oregon OSHA (which guides our practices & protocols) made the following statement:

On Jan. 13, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court blocked enforcement of federal OSHA's Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard. Oregon OSHA will continue to monitor federal OSHA activities and respond as needed. In light of the Supreme Court decision, however, Oregon OSHA will not move forward with adopting the same or similar standard in Oregon.

Oregon OSHA maintains a COVID-19 rule that requires employers to implement protections for workers. Those protections include infection control planning, exposure risk assessments, sanitation, and notification. Those measures also require employers to follow the Oregon Health Authority's requirement to use facial coverings indoors.

Birgitte

Oregon Coast Community College acknowledges that we reside within the ancestral homelands of the Yaquina (Yaquo'n) and Alsea (Wusi'n) Tribes. Today, those tribal descendants are represented by The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. We are honored for the opportunity to teach, learn, and work on their ancestral lands. We also recognize the ongoing contributions they make to the community, Oregon Coast Community College, and the world.