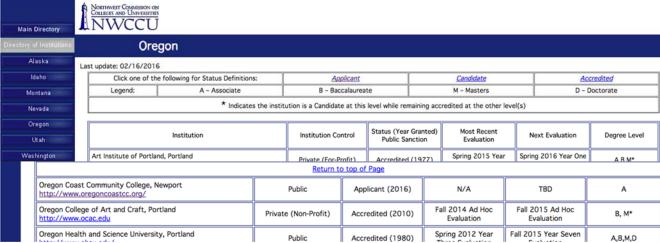


President's Report Birgitte Ryslinge February 2016

# Oregon Coast Community College is awarded status as Applicant for Candidacy by the NorthWest Commission of Colleges and Universities





Along with the OCCC Board of Education, I am delighted to announce that Oregon Coast Community College is now officially recognized by the NorthWest Commission on Colleges and Universities as an Applicant for Candidacy. This is the critical first step of the three stages to independence: Applicant, Candidate, and

Independently Accredited. The College submitted its "Application for Consideration for Candidacy" for independent accreditation to the NWCCU in October 2015. On Friday, Jan. 8, along with Cindy Carlson, OCCC's Dean of Students and Instruction, I traveled to Seattle to testify before the Board of Commissioners and formally submit our application. On Monday, Feb. 1, the College received word that the Commission had accepted and granted OCCC's application.

With the support of dedicated faculty and staff, including everyone reading this report, the executive team at the College has been focused on placing us firmly on the path to independent accreditation since July 2014. This fall's Application document comprised nearly 1,000 pages, and represented countless hours of work from dedicated college personnel. Though a great deal of work lies ahead, we all look forward to seeing OCCC's eventual full independence, and the diplomas of our students proudly granted in the name of Oregon Coast Community College.

Presently, the programs and services of OCCC are accredited through an oversight agreement with Portland Community College (PCC). Oregon Coast Community College partners with PCC to meet the full accreditation standards. While this arrangement benefits OCCC students through access to federal financial aid and course transferability, it also means that until OCCC is independent, all degrees and certificates will be granted in the name of PCC. The Oregon Coast Diploma will be one of the more visible results of OCCC's independent accreditation, but its effects will be many and profound. As an independent college, OCCC will be able to more expeditiously address student needs in financial aid, and student records, and more quickly respond to the changing and diverse needs of the communities of Lincoln County, such as marine science, hospitality or other fields when there is sufficient local demand. In short, it's about doing even more to ensure student success, and becoming an even more valuable partner to the communities we serve.

Achieving "Applicant" status is a major step for Oregon Coast in its pursuit of independent accreditation, but much work lies ahead. In order to achieve the next step of Candidate the College must, in the next one to three years, develop and submit an extensive self-study to the Commission, and host a full on-site evaluation by a team selected by NWCCU. Periodic visits from the commission, more reports and steady development of programs, policies and procedures will keep us busy through and beyond candidacy, working towards securing independent accreditation within five to seven years. OCCC is one of 17 community colleges in Oregon. Similar to OCCC, many of the smaller colleges began under contracting agreements with larger colleges. In recent years, the community colleges of Tillamook Bay (founded 1981, independent 2013) and Columbia Gorge (founded 1977, independent 2012) secured their own independent accreditation, leaving OCCC the last community college in Oregon to undertake the process.

#### **Student Services**

<u>College Call Night:</u> This event has volunteers from student services, faculty, staff and administration placing calls to students who have "declared" in the following programs/pathways: Transfer Degree (AAOT), Associate of General Studies (AGS), Criminal Justice, and Transfer Business (ASOT-B). Last term 279 students were called, and this term 299. This is a personal outreach to our students, to ask how they are doing, what's working, and what barriers they encounter.

<u>Rapid Response</u>: Ben Kaufmann, academic advisor, held a Rapid Response workshop in conjunction with Maggie Underwood at WorkSource Oregon at the Lincoln City outlet mall last winter and will be doing another on February 26 at Staples in Newport. These workshops are aimed at recently dislocated workers with Ben on hand to share college information (how to get started, financial aid, degrees offered, GED info, etc.) with all who attend.

<u>College Placement – Using Multiple Measures:</u> College developmental education faculty are currently calling all placement testers who placed into writing, reading, and math sequences below WR 121 and Math 95. The faculty use current best practices in college placement research to better place students into appropriate

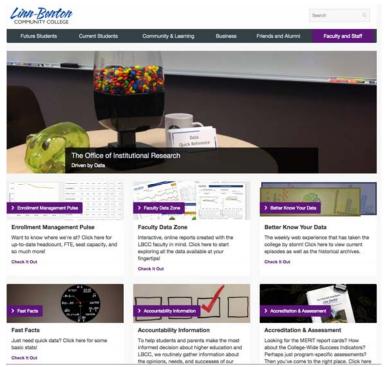
leveled classes, with the intent to place them at the true "best fit" and in many cases shortening the time (and \$\$) that students spend on the developmental pathway.

## Outreach and Connection

<u>Current Students:</u> Winter term Call Night was conducted on January 21. Five staff and three faculty members met afterhours for pizza and phone outreach – 299 students were called. This provides students with the opportunity to get questions answered as well as provide feedback about their experiences at OCCC. Call Night was implemented last year and due to the valuable information received and the incredibly positive feedback from students we plan to continue to do this outreach each term.

<u>Prospective Students:</u> To insure that students who express interest in or have applied to Oregon Coast Community College are receiving the information they need to begin taking classes at OCCC, Student Services staff will be implementing a plan to follow up with each individual via email and phone. Prospective students who live in close proximity to the College will be invited for a campus tour. All will receive information about OCCC financial aid, and, for those interested in a limited entry program (AQS or NURS), specific program information.

## Institutional Effectiveness



You might be wondering why this screen shot from the Linn Benton (LBCC) Office of Institutional Research is doing in our report! I am pleased to announce that OCCC is now contracting with LBCC to bring their highly effective and well-developed research and data capacities to Oregon Coast. With the loss of Elizabeth Daly (who moved to a full-time position elsewhere) we had to determine what would be the most cost effective and high-quality way to serve the ever-growing data needs of OCCC. As we focus increasingly on student success and completion, on developing new programs that meet the needs of the community and are sustainable for the college, and on taking the steps to reach independent accreditation, data and research will be central to our success. LBCC has a long and effective track record, and we are very pleased that they have taken us on. The new system will be effective July 1, 2016. Staff from LBCC will come to OCCC this spring to introduce some of the features we can look forward to.

## **Aquarium Science**

Director Chris Spaulding and staff are finalizing preparations for the annual National Visiting Committee review to be held February 22 through 24. The Visiting Committee (see below) is a very high caliber group of aquarium professionals from all over the US. The committee will be involved in many aspects of program review including evaluation of curriculum, program administration, facilities, student engagement, and potential future offerings. The highlight of the week for students will be the opportunity for each to participate in 3 mock employment interviews where they will receive feedback on their resumes and interviewing skills. Results of the review will be shared with the OCCC Board of Education at the March meeting.

## OCCC 2016 National Visiting Committee

- Chris Andrews Sea Life Aguariums U.S.
- Kathryn Kegel Seattle Aquarium
- Paul Clarkson Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Stu Clausen America's Wildlife Museum & Aquarium
- James Collins Segrest Farms

- Roy Drinnen Moody Gardens
- Scott Martin Disney's The Seas
- Rachel Metz Virginia Aquarium
- Jessica Miller Downtown Aquarium Denver
- Lise Watson Shedd Aquarium

#### **Health and Human Services**

<u>Nursing</u>: Thirty-nine students continue in the program. On March 10<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm, second year nursing students will be conducting a Community Health Education Fair at Central Campus as part of their senior project (the college community and community at-large are invited).

<u>Criminal Justice:</u> continues to offer new Corrections courses with the goal of graduating students with Corrections certificates. The program is also introducing some electives to entice students into the CJ program, including Intro to Criminal Gangs. We are offering a Co-Operative Education class in spring term, for approximately five students who will be doing internships in a variety of placements in Lincoln County including Lincoln County Corrections and Probation and Parole

<u>High School Nursing Assistant Program:</u> started this term as a result of a grant received through the Confederated Tribe of Siletz. We are working closely with LCSD on this program. Five students are in the program, with three from Eddyville HS and two from Newport HS. Students have completed their skills lab experience and now have started their clinical experience.

<u>Medical Assistant Program:</u> Twelve students continued on this term, with some attrition in the program due to life issues. Students are starting to work on clinical experiences for Spring term. They will be doing their preceptorships throughout the Samaritan Clinics in Lincoln County

<u>EMT Program:</u> Fifteen students continued on this term. They are completing Emergency Room and Ambulance ride-along experiences this term.

## **Upcoming Events:**

- Senior Connections: group of industry leaders in Lincoln County dealing with health care issues of older adults will be holding a Health Career Fair at Central Campus on March 9<sup>th</sup> from 1000 am-2pm in the commons at Central Campus. Event is open to the College Community and Community at-large.
- Oregon Pacific Area Health Education Center: has requested to put on a Health Careers Fair at OCCC.
  This event will be open to Lincoln County High School students. OCCC has agreed to host this event,
  which will be on April 15<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm.

## **Small Business Development Center**

This month, the Small Business Development Center saw its \$12,500 grant for the new "Lincoln County Digital Media Marketing Studio" funded by Lincoln County's Economic Development Grant Program. The studio, once complete, will provide Lincoln County business owners and individuals with affordable local access to cutting edge technology to help them market their products and services more effectively online, via still photographs, video, podcasts and more.

Also this month, the SBDC has launched a countywide business needs assessment survey. Supported by paid advertising in the News Times, the News Guard and targeted social media posts, the web-based survey will also be featured in the Spring "Catch the Wave" publication (to be mailed to every Lincoln County address in March), thus placing it among the most broadly distributed survey of its type of the Lincoln County business community. The survey will remain active through April 1.

## Partnering with Oregon State University

Oregon State University in Corvallis has always been an important partner for OCCC, and is the primary transfer destination for OCCC students. With the investment of OSU in the Marine Studies Initiative Campus in Newport, our close work together will be of ever-greater importance to Lincoln County students. A number of new joint initiatives between OCCC and OSU are being explored, and there have been a number of meetings in the past month.

<u>Degree Partnership Program with OSU:</u> Student Services staff and one faculty member met with Kayleen Salchenberg, OSU Transfer Student Services Manager, to receive updated information about Oregon State University's Degree Partnership Program. The Degree Partnership Program (DPP) promotes educational attainment and bachelor's degree completion by allowing students to be jointly admitted and concurrently enrolled at Oregon State University and any participating community college. Students complete a single admission application and may combine credits for financial aid eligibility. Staff in Student Services are working on plans to promote this program at OCCC.

<u>Juntos and Open Campus:</u> Following the success of the first cohort of the Juntos program at OCCC, OCCC administration and "Open Campus" leadership met to explore how we might expand the impact of Juntos and other mutual areas of interest including Degree Pathways, particularly in the areas of science transfer. A possible outcome is a staff position located at OCCC and jointly funded by OSU and OCCC to support community outreach and pathways articulation from high school, through OCCC, and on to transfer.

Finally, Birgitte continues to meet with Bob Cowan, Director of Hatfield and the MSI project, to discuss potentials for collaboration, This includes joint credit programming, new transfer pathways, and potential access for OCCC students to the dorms planned by OSU. We will likely also see an increase in science-focused OSU sponsored professional development classes being offered at our College.

## Grants

Oregon Coast Community College submitted a proposal for \$129,088 in funding under Oregon HB 3063: Community College Student Success Grants. We have named this potential program "Navigate/Navegar." Below is the grant summary provided in our application:

The state's overarching goal of this competitive grant funding is "to increase the number of under-served, low-income and first generation college-bound students who enroll in community college and make progress toward a degree or a certificate." Lincoln County is a rural community with high poverty, a high school graduation rate of 71%, (2015) and a college-going rate of only 48% of high-school graduates (2011 HS graduates who enrolled college). Our community is in critical need of just the kind of support intended by these grant funds. OCCC,

with the assistance of this grant, has the capacity and capability to increase the number of local students who continue on to college and find success there. Together with committed community partners including Lincoln County School District and Oregon State University, more of our young people can and will go to college, improving not only their own lives, but the collective economic and civic vitality of Lincoln County and the coastal region.

With the grant funding, OCCC will develop and deliver OCCC Navigate (Navegar), a new umbrella program designed to inspire, inform, guide and support students finding their way to – and successfully through – community college. The OCCC Navigate program will support Lincoln County students and families beginning in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and continuing through completion of community college and on to employment or transfer. The Navigate program has two key strategic initiatives: 1) connect, enhance, and simplify access to existing outreach and support activities across partners to encourage more students to complete high school and enter college, 2) provide direct support to increase retention and success of qualifying students (up to 30 Navigate Scholars) who enroll at OCCC during the grant period.

Recognizing that the grant funding ends June 2017, some outcomes (including website, navigation tools, partner identification and coordination) are intended to remain in place and continue to have positive impacts on college-going culture in Lincoln County beyond the grant period. Other high-intensity and high-cost elements (such as coaching and augmented student aid) will only persist if continuation funding can be found. OCCC intends to aggressively pursue other funding sources for continuation during the grant period, utilizing the success of Navigate to encourage this investment in the youth of Lincoln County.

## President's External Engagement Since Last Report

Lincoln County	Regional & State (& beyond)
Newport Rotary	Center for Stewardship Non-Profit Training
Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation	STEM Hub Steering Committee
Economic Development Alliance Lincoln County	Mid Valley Mid Coast Regional Achievement
Aquarium Board Quarterly Meeting	Collaborative
	Oregon Presidents Council

#### OCCC Media Report Jan 20 - February 16, 2015

#### BOSS RADIO NETWORK 100.7 BOSS FM Feb 17, 2016

OREGON COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Host: Cheryl Harle, Guests: OCCC President Birgitte Ryslinge & Dave Price http://www.bossfmradio.net/podcast/

## A positively wonderful pairing

Oregon Coast Today

Jan 26, 2016

Two new classes "Practical Metaphysics for Wellness" & "Meditation for Stress Relief and Wellness" at **Oregon Coast Community College** are offering people the chance to become the star of their own life by tackling stress, anxiety...

## OCCC College Transfer Days 1/26

 ${\sf OregonCoastDailyNews}$ 

Jan 26, 2016

Oregon's community colleges and four-year universities collaborate each year on a state-wide tour to all seventeen Oregon community colleges.

## OCCC one step closer to independence

**Newport News Times** 

Feb 9, 2016

Oregon Coast Community College has reached the first milestone in its trek toward independence.

#### Entrepreneurs should watch for RAIN

Lincoln City News Guard

Feb 10, 2016

RAIN is once again in the Newport forecast. The state and regionally funded entrepreneurial support organization will host a free pub talk from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday. RAIN stands for the Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network. The event is sponsored by the RAIN and the Oregon State University ... and **Oregon Coast Community College's** Small Business Development Center.

#### SBDC launches countywide business survey

**Newport News Times** 

Feb 10, 2016

With the start of the new year, the **Oregon Coast Community College** Small Business Development Center is turning to businesses throughout Lincoln ...

## <u>OregonCoastDailyNews.com</u>

KYTE FM 102.7

Feb 11, 2016

The **Oregon Coast Community College** Board has announced that the college has been officially recognized by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities as a candidate for accreditation...

## OCCC closer to independent accreditation candidacy

Lincoln City News Guard

Feb 10, 2016

The **Oregon Coast Community College** has moved closer to accreditation as an independent college, as it has been officially recognized by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities as an applicant for candidacy.

## **Social Media**

OCCC FACEBOOK FANS: 2003! OCCC has exceeded the all-important 2000 mark!





