



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
College of Arts and Sciences

May 2, 2008

President Dave Frohnmayer  
Oregon Hall  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear President Frohnmayer:

In the interests of clarifying the University of Oregon Senate's governance powers and structure, I write today to ask you to ratify the Senate's amended Enabling Legislation.

The State of Oregon State Board of Higher Education Internal Management Directives, as updated December 2004, in section 1.123 "Internal Governance and Authority over the Faculty" read in part:

"Each institution shall have the right to formulate a statement of internal governance expressed as a constitution or in other appropriate format, which shall be ratified as the official statement of internal governance by those included in the internal governance structure of the institution and by the president."

The University of Oregon Senate, being the UO's governance body, was created through enabling legislation enacted on 13 March 1996. The power of the University of Oregon Senate to revise this enabling legislation was affirmed in an opinion from Joe Gordon McKeever, Senior Assistant Attorney General, to Senate President Suzanne Clark, dated 8 March 2007. Since then, the Senate has passed three motions which have revised the enabling legislation:


US06/07-11 – To expand criteria for officers-of-instruction who may serve as University Senate vice president and president

US07/08-9 To add 3 classified staff senators with voting privileges to the UO Senate

US07/08-16 Amend the material of the Enabling Legislation which deals with calling a meeting of the University Assembly

Enclosed please find copies of these three motions, the letter from Mr. McKeever, as well as the revised enabling legislation. These documents are posted on the Senate's internet site:

<http://www.uoregon.edu/~uosenate/senate.html>

 I ask that this letter, and your reply, be posted on that site, and archived in the office of the Secretary of the Faculty, Gwen Steigelman.

Respectfully,

  
Gordon Sayre  
Professor of English  
2007-08 University of Oregon Senate President

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

May 5, 2008

Gordon Sayre  
President  
University Senate

Dear President Sayre:

Thank you for your letter of May 2, 2008 asking me to ratify three amendments which have revised the enabling legislation of the University Senate.

Pursuant to authority granted to the university president by Internal Management Directive 1.123, I hereby ratify US06/07-11; US07/08-9; and US07/08-16. This ratification is effective as of the date of this letter.

On a related matter, I note with concern that a number of faculty positions in the University Senate will be vacant during the next academic year due to the failure of qualified candidates to file for election.

I know that you are fully aware of quorum and representational issues for the faculty that may be presented. The selection of a new president next year following my intended retirement will trigger review of our governance structure and presents an opportune time to revisit issues of faculty participation that have been fundamental to this university since its charter and founding.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Frohnmayer  
President

Cc: Gwen Steigelman  
Secretary of the Faculty

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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