southern exposure
WHAT'S NOW, NEW AND NEXT AT SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

SOU in Salem: Notes from the Capitol, Week 16

The Big News:

• Only 6-7 more weeks to go! (And…so little time, as well…)

• President Bailey and Provost Shillam made a few rounds in Salem at the Capitol on Thursday, meeting with legislators on behavioral health, university funding, and our Creative Industries project. Meetings were held with, Sen. Janeen Sollman, Speaker Julie Fahey, Rep. Susan McLain, Rep. Zach Hudson, and staff from Sen. Lisa Reynolds' office. Rob Patridge was able to introduce them as well to other legislators, including Rep. Ken Helm.

• The Regional Universities had an informational session this past Wednesday in the Senate Education Committee. Presidents Bailey, Ryan and Peters, along with WOU student Kassidi Thompson and our own Board Chair Sheila Clough testified on the unique role the Regional Universities play in the state. Oregon Legislative Video (timestamp 15:15) for those who wish to watch.

The Little Things:

• While the Oregon Senate has 30 members, the House is down two members currently. Representative Courtney Neron, has been appointed to the Senate (and is now using the name Courtney Neron Misslin); Representative Hoa Nguyen is expected to be absent for the rest of session while receiving medical treatment for a serious condition.)

• Representative Zach Hudson is the winner of having the most additional duties assigned this past week; Rep. Hudson was named to replace Rep. Hoa Nguyen on the Ways and Means Education Subcommittee, as well as being tapped today to lead the House Education Committee (in addition to chairing the House Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee)

What's Ahead

• Revenue Forecast May 14!!!

What we are especially focused on:

• The May Revenue Forecast, and using that to determine the final "asks" and strategy for the next 3-4 weeks in the Capitol

• Following up on all the parts of our agenda to bring the session home!