

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the matter of recommendations to the Governor's)
Commission on Higher Education on the future of) RESOLUTION
Portland State University and higher education in) #89-209
the Portland metropolitan area.)

WHEREAS, the Governor has appointed a commission to study higher education in the Portland metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the full development of our higher education resources is crucial to the future economic growth and well being of the metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of the people who now live and work in the Portland metropolitan area is greater than 50 percent of the population of the State of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, when compared to the national average, the Portland metropolitan area is underserved with respect to the production of graduate degrees and the availability of graduate degree programs; and

WHEREAS, the Portland metropolitan area is served by a major comprehensive public university -- Portland State University; and

WHEREAS, the faculty, staff, and students at Portland State University have demonstrated remarkable dedication through years of adversity, confusion, and inadequate resources;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Multnomah County recognizes that the Commission's study will provide a valuable review, is long overdue, and supports the goal of improving the quality of higher education opportunities in the metropolitan area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners calls upon the Governor's Commission of Higher Education to be guided by the following principles in their deliberations;

1. The Portland metropolitan area requires the full development of a major urban comprehensive research university.
2. Portland State University should be involved in the discussions throughout the process and be considered for the leadership role in coordinating the higher education resources of the Portland metropolitan area.
3. Higher education resources in the Portland area should be upgraded, integrated, and unified under the leadership of one local university system.

4. In meeting the growing needs for public higher education in the area, existing institutions should be strengthened and realigned as necessary rather than creating new institutions.
5. The structures of public higher education in the area should strengthen the linkages between the city and its growing suburbs.
6. Access to the full range of affordable public higher education resources in the Portland metropolitan area must be available to all qualified citizens.
7. The State Board of Higher Education should be requested to review all programs offered in the metropolitan area by the Oregon State System of Higher Education, the Community College System, and the private institutions to avoid unnecessary duplication and overlap.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners anticipates that the the dialogue on the future of higher education in the metropolitan area provides the opportunity for enhanced relations and communications between local governments, the business community and our local university.

ADOPTED this 5th day of December, 1989



By

Gladys McCoy
Gladys McCoy, Chair
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

REVIEWED:

Laurence Kressel
Laurence Kressel, County Counsel
of Multnomah County, Oregon