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Industry Associations

**AeA, Oregon Council
OR Business Alliance
Software Association**

{ Engineering and Technology Industry Council }

ETIC: A partnership between Oregon's public universities and the private sector

July 10, 2006

Henry Lorenzen, President
Oregon State Board of Higher Education
Oregon University System
P.O. Box 3175
1431 Johnson Lane
Eugene, OR 97403

Dear Mr. Lorenzen:

I am writing to you in my role as Vice Chair of the Engineering & Technology Industry Council and on behalf of the Council as a whole. ETIC's mission is to make Oregon's engineering & technology education and research programs strategic assets for Oregon's economy and Oregon's residents.

As you know, one of ETIC's roles is to advise the State Board of Higher Education on investments in engineering and technology education and research program. In addition to developing the policy package for your consideration, ETIC recently asked the ETIC delegate from each OUS campus to consider nominating capital projects for possible endorsement by ETIC. Two of these campuses nominated projects. At a special meeting held on July 7, 2006, these proposals were reviewed and considered for endorsement. The following proposals received endorsement:

1. University of Oregon Integrative Science Complex University of Oregon Integrative Science Complex

This Integrative Science Complex (ISC) project aligns particularly well with ETIC's strategy of enhancing the educational and research capacity of OUS institutions. It expands UO's interdisciplinary science research facilities, including leading-edge research and undergraduate/graduate student education in nanoscience, nanotechnology and other materials science fields. The ISC expands UO's direct connections with industry by providing access to materials characterization and fabrication facilities, as well as creating internship and industry partnership laboratories. It supports inter-disciplinary and inter-institutional scientific research collaborations, such as those associated with the Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI) and UO's Brain, Biology and Machine Initiative (BBMI). The ISC- Phase 2 will greatly enhance teaching and research in support of initiatives integrating physical science, bioscience, neuroscience, and computer and information science components. The ETIC industry members were particularly impressed with how well the ISC addresses the Board's strategic priorities, including *enhancing access, increasing academic excellence, stimulating collaboration across educational and industry sectors, and promoting advanced workforce training and economic development.*

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2. Eastern Oregon Regional Information Center

The Council sees a strong relationship between this center and *enhancing access* and building the pipeline of highly educated Oregonians by supporting degree programs and pre-college education opportunities.

3. Hermiston University Center/BMCC Partnership

This new center would *enhance access* to statistical computing and applied sciences to place-bound students in the Hermiston area.

Thank you for giving these projects your additional consideration and for your support of ETIC's mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred Ziari". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Fred Ziari
Vice Chair, ETIC
President & CEO, EZ Wireless

cc: Chancellor George Pernsteiner