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dorsement of the 4 percent sales tax option. I've made my commitment that I'd bring basic school support back up to at least 30 percent minimum so we have some property tax relief ...

I've come out with a proposed action plan on the very difficult issue of the spotted owl and of the whole question of how Oregon's timber economy can be adjusted ...

You know, I'm not in the position of letting either the opposition or critics or, quite candidly, newspaper columnists drive this campaign. That's a bogus set of accusations, and I expect that they'll go away.

ODE: I'd like you to go into some of the issues with more detail, particularly higher education. How high of a priority do you see higher education in terms of the state's future?

DF: I think higher education and its health are critical for the future of the state. I say that as a person who spent 10 years as a very happy and fulfilled member of the University of Oregon faculty.

(There is) a persistent need for keeping talent. We have world class universities in the state system that are supported at levels we ought to be ashamed of. That means we need to make major investments in faculty salaries, equipment and instructional resources available to the students at the universities.

We need to get the universities to work better and more collaboratively together. We have a big system and ... we can't support three flagship universities.



'I think we have to show people that the future of the state is intimately tied to the success of higher education in the state. Everything is tied to what higher education in this state can provide but has not been given the resources to provide.'

— Dave Frohnmayer

ODE: When you say Oregon can't support three flagship universities, are you saying the state should take emphasis away from Portland State University and put it into the University of Oregon and Oregon State?

DF: I think it's premature to speak to that until we hear from

the (Governor's Commission on Higher Education in the Portland Metropolitan Area). We expect to hear from them in the fall.

ODE: Do you have any specific plans for programs within the higher education system that you think need to be fixed immediately?

DF: Faculty salaries is one. A second is the relationship between the universities and each other. For example, we have the Institute of Molecular Biology (at the University). It's world class. I think we need to develop its ties to the Oregon Health Sciences University even more closely because mo-

lecular medicine is the wave of the future in health care.

We need to make sure that our schools all the way through get sufficient support so that they retain their standing and their ability to attract new faculty, particularly as this cohort of faculty begins to be of retirement age.

But I have a great and abiding respect for academic freedom and for the autonomy of academic institutions, and I don't believe in the governor meddling in the priorities of higher education where that involves decisions best left to the internal governance of the institutions.

I would want to be guided by the presidents, the faculties, the State Board of Higher Education. I think that there's a long tradition, which Gov. Goldschmidt was accused of having breached, of not interfering with the internal operations of institutions.

ODE: You talked about how to fund education, and you brought up the sales tax. Do you see any of the money from the sales tax going into higher education?

DF: No. I see that going into primary and secondary education and property tax relief. I think that higher education is something that we look to the general fund for, and we ought to continue to look to it, but to look to a more respectable share of it.

I also think that we need a more aggressive role in private philanthropy. Of course, one of the other things that comes from having a good solid insti-

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