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the price tag is too high for the new model to receive full funding.

And without all the money, Oregon university officials say the new model won't work because it won't provide enough money to ensure all universities remain financially stable.

The changes, passed by the State Board of Higher Education in July, reform how the annual \$500 million pool of state and tuition money is distributed to Oregon's public universities. Each university would keep its own tuition dollars, earn state money based on its enrollment and have more control over initiating new programs to attract more students.

To start using the new system, \$121.2 million is required in addition to the \$639.1 million necessary to run Oregon's universities without any funding-model changes. The additional money includes funding to maintain Oregon's smaller public schools to insure they won't close their doors if their enrollment figures and revenue do not match what is predicted in the new model. It also includes funding to keep tuition rates at 1996-97 levels for undergraduates.

#### In the Legislature

The money to reform the state's public universities' funding system is available this year, it is just a matter of getting the Legislature's attention.

That is Adams' opinion, citing figures from a September 1998 Office of Economic Analysis report that forecasts a more than \$100

million jump in 1997-99 revenue compared to the forecast made at the close of the 1997 legislative session.

Recent history, however, would show that higher education will not get the money just because it is there.

Since Measure 5 — which lowered property taxes — passed in 1990, the amount of state money given to Oregon's public higher education has fallen by more than \$100 million.

Adams, a Grants Pass Republican, said he believes the lobbying effort of other needy groups has been more persuasive over the last few years. The state's public K-12 schools are extremely well organized, he said, sending thousands of supporters to Salem to make their case. This year, the competition for money will not be any different, he said, and higher education supporters need to make lobbying a priority.

"If they aren't down there indicating their interest and support, the K-12 or community colleges or health and human services will be," he said. "For this to happen, it's going to have to require a partnership between faculty, administration and students, all those that have an interest. ... They're going to have to be more than passively interested."

Adams finds the new system attractive because of its market-based approach, allowing the funding to follow each student and giving universities control over how they operate. In addition, its performance-

based approach is designed to measure how well the money is being used instead of "just saying, send me a check and don't watch what I do," he said.

Representative Floyd Prozanski agrees that the model makes higher education more "accountable."

It is a buzzword he has heard since he came to the Legislature in 1995. Oregon's higher education always needed to be accountable for the money it received and efficient in its spending.

With the new plan, now it seems like it is, he said.

"I feel at this point the Legislature is going to put its money where its mouth is," the Lane County Democrat said. "If we're going to expect all this accountability, we need to make certain that the university system has the tools in place to accomplish that."

As a Eugene attorney, Prozanski said he has observed firsthand the effects of 1994's Measure 11, which requires permanent mandatory sentences for juvenile crime. Instead of using money proactively in schools and higher education, he said, he has seen state funds go toward building more prisons.

"The frustrating thing as a prosecutor is when budgets for corrections surpass higher education," he said. "Something tells us we're heading the wrong way, and we need to turn around and head back the other way."

#### The Universities

University officials are calling the \$121 million a "return," not an

"extra."

University Vice President Dan Williams said that, when he came to the University in the 80s, the state used to fund more than 30 percent of the Oregon public universities' total expenses. But over the years the proportion has dwindled to 20 percent, shifting the added expense to students.

He said the money request should not be thought of as additional money needed, but what is necessary.

"We'd like to get back to the place we were 20 years ago," he said. "It's not as if we're getting something we don't need. We're asking them to return us to the level we were and should be."

He's optimistic that the free-market approach will appeal to legislators — forcing universities to perform their best to attract the students who will pay the money for their operation.

Oregon University System spokesman Philip Bransford said the new model is easier for legislators to understand as well. For example, they can look up the state's contribution for any type of student, from engineering to computer science, to compare the higher cost of one to the other.

#### The Bottom Line

Oregon university officials are not budgeting on the \$120 million figure.

Bransford said the calculation includes a minimum amount of resources to ensure that the Western and Eastern Oregon universities

will not close under a new system.

This is necessary because the system's figures are based on enrollment numbers that predict Oregon's public universities will increase by 3,900 full-time students by the 2000-01 school year, causing all universities to gain funding.

If the system's smaller schools do not see that increase, the \$120 million would stabilize them.

Without full funding, Bransford said, the model will not work and the system would be stuck somewhere between the old and new systems.

Realistically, they will not get the \$120 million. That is the opinion of Oregon Student Association executive director Ed Dennis, who sees the economy heading downward to the point where \$120 million is too much. Even with \$70 million in funds, "We should all party and dance in the streets," said Dennis, who heads the student lobbying group.

With only \$30 million to \$50 million from the Legislature, he said, Oregon's larger universities will end up subsidizing the smaller ones again — what the new model was designed to get away from.

Brady Adams believes the coalition could collapse if funding is short and smaller schools lose out, based on his talks with university presidents.

But Adams sees this as OUS's only shot.

"This is truly a crossroads," Adams said, adding that if the Legislature is not willing to fully fund the model, "I will doubt in the future we'll have that opportunity again."

## Free Tickets for UO Students

### Oregon football, volleyball, and soccer

- To pick up your FREE football ticket, show your student ID card at either the Casanova Center (Mon.-Fri., 9-5), EMU Ticket Office (Mon.-Fri. 9-7, Sat. 10-4, Sun. 12-3) or at Autzen Stadium on game day.
- To receive FREE volleyball admittance, show your student ID card at McArthur Court immediately prior to the match.
- Free admission to all soccer games. Games played at the NEW field located next to the Casanova Center.

#### SOCCER Home Schedule

Oct 2	San Francisco	3:00pm
3	Portland St.	1:00pm
9	Oregon St.	3:00pm
16	Washington	3:00pm
18	WSU	1:00pm
30	Arizona	3:00pm
Nov. 1	Arizona St.	1:00pm



#### FOOTBALL Home Schedule

Sept. 26	Stanford
Oct. 24	USC (Homecoming)
Nov. 7	Washington
14	Arizona St.



#### VOLLEYBALL Home Schedule

Oct. 2	Arizona St.	7:35pm
4	Arizona	1:00pm
16	California	7:00pm
18	Stanford	1:00pm
22	USC	7:00pm
25	UCLA	1:00pm
Nov. 6	WSU	7:00pm
8	Washington	1:00pm



for complete student ticket information, call the duck ticket office...

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