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HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION

NEWS RELEASE

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HECC Executive Director Announces Key Staff Appointments

Ben Cannon, Executive Director of Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission, announced today the appointment of **Dana Richardson**, **Bob Brew**, and **Brian Fox** to three key leadership positions.

Dana Richardson – Deputy Director for Policy and Legislative Affairs

Effective April 15, **Dana Richardson** will become the HECC's Deputy Director for Policy and Legislative Affairs. Ms. Richardson comes to the HECC from the office of Senate President Peter Courtney, where she has served since 2010 as his Legislative Director.

In addition to her other responsibilities for the Senate President, Ms. Richardson was a key architect of the 2011-2013 legislation that created the current structure for higher education in Oregon. "I don't know of

anyone who is more knowledgeable about all of the changes we have made the last few years in how we govern higher education in Oregon than Dana Richardson,” said Senate President Peter Courtney in announcing her transition. “She’s been there every step of the way and involved at the core level of every change we have made.”

In her new role, Ms. Richardson will be a leader in policy development as well as lead the HECC’s legislative agenda for improving access, affordability, and success for Oregon students in higher education. She will help the Commission to integrate and prioritize its recommendations for legislation, and will serve as the Commission’s day-to-day liaison to the Legislature.

Prior to working in the Senate President’s office, Ms. Richardson has served as an administrator for the Senate and House Education Committees in the Oregon Legislature, as an education policy advisor to Washington Governor Christine Gregoire, and in various administrative roles at the University of Washington. She earned her JD from the University of Washington.

Bob Brew – Executive Director, Office of Student Access and Completion

Effective July 1, **Bob Brew** will become the Executive Director of the Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC). Mr. Brew has led the Oregon Student Access Commission as its Interim Executive Director since October 2012, where he has overseen the revamp of its online scholarship application, the expansion of the ASPIRE program, and the administration of the roughly \$50 million annual Oregon Opportunity Grant.

Under HB 3120 (2013), OSAC’s formal name (although not its acronym) changes on July 1 in order to reflect the transfer of oversight for this agency from a standalone commission to the HECC. The Oregon Student Access Commission will hold its final meeting on June 27, 2014, after which its responsibilities will be transferred to the HECC.

Prior to OSAC, Bob was the Finance Director for the Oregon Secretary of State, Budget Officer for the City of Springfield, and performed a variety of key financial roles for the City of Eugene. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Miami University, a Master’s in Business Administration from Portland State University, and his post-graduate Certificate in Public Management from Willamette University. Bob extends his public service as an elected council member for the City of Springfield.

Brian Fox – Team Lead and Administrator, Public University Budget and Finance

Brian Fox joined the HECC on April 1 to serve as Team Lead and Administrator for the Commission’s work on developing a budget recommendation and funding allocation model for public universities. Mr. Fox comes to the HECC from the Chancellor’s Office of the Oregon University System, where he served as a special assistant to the Interim Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration. Mr. Fox was a student member of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education from 2008-2011 and received his MBA from the University of Oregon.

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