Dear University of Oregon Colleagues,

I am writing to share updates on a number of initiatives that have been underway in our academic and entrepreneurial community for some time. These are efforts that represent opportunities to further UO’s status as an academic and entrepreneurial university and to reinforce our commitment to excellence across the entire university, with the potential to span strengths in multiple schools and colleges. And it is a faith that has deepened tremendously during my time as provost. If the last year has told us anything, it is that issues of social and environmental justice are among the best in the nation. Our worldwide reputation in college athletics often overshadows our academic strengths. Through this initiative, we will leverage the incredible attention on UO athletics, our academic prowess and standing as a premier institution in teaching and research of the environment shows every indication of being a university linked to what it means to build the university of the future. As I see it, we must move forward and be more nimble as an institution.

These five initiatives focus on areas of strength, growth, and potential related to the environment, innovation, entrepreneurship, and equity.

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This initiative will create a research and policy center on racial disparities and resilience. The center will focus on policy development and implementation, with an eye towards exploring how theories and methodologies can improve the health of under-represented groups and communities. Lesley-Anne is in the process of organizing a team of researchers and analysts that will work on developing a comprehensive data analysis program, which will provide information on the unique social and economic challenges facing under-represented populations. This initiative will create a research and policy center on racial disparities and resilience. The center will focus on policy development and implementation, with an eye towards exploring how theories and methodologies can improve the health of under-represented groups and communities. Lesley-Anne is in the process of organizing a team of researchers and analysts that will work on developing a comprehensive data analysis program, which will provide information on the unique social and economic challenges facing under-represented populations.

Our institution has a historic legacy of innovative thinking and action dating back more than 100 years. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, this legacy has been rekindled with a renewed sense of urgency to develop new solutions that address social and economic challenges.

Innovation Initiative

This initiative, led by Lesley-Anne Pittard, assistant vice president for campus and community engagement in the Division of Equity and Inclusion, will leverage the university’s entrepreneurial and academic strengths to ultimately develop solutions that address social and economic challenges. Lesley-Anne is in the process of organizing a team of researchers and analysts that will work on developing a comprehensive data analysis program, which will provide information on the unique social and economic challenges facing under-represented populations. This initiative will create a research and policy center on racial disparities and resilience. The center will focus on policy development and implementation, with an eye towards exploring how theories and methodologies can improve the health of under-represented groups and communities. Lesley-Anne is in the process of organizing a team of researchers and analysts that will work on developing a comprehensive data analysis program, which will provide information on the unique social and economic challenges facing under-represented populations.

The Innovation Initiative is designed to support the incubation of a wide range of innovation activities within the UO community. These efforts will build upon and help amplify the state of Oregon’s worldwide leadership in academic and entrepreneurial activity. It will also work to create a more robust and diverse academic and entrepreneurial community that is committed to addressing social and economic challenges.

For more information about the Innovation Initiative, please visit the Innovation Initiative website or contact Tim Schwartz, who recently joined the university as the director of entrepreneurship and economic development, or contact Pittard at lpittard@uoregon.edu. Soon, we will unveil a website that encapsulates all the initiatives under one umbrella.

Best regards,

Provost and Senior Vice President

Sincerely,

[Signature]

For more information, or to get involved, please visit the Environment Initiative website or contact ajnelson@uoregon.edu. For more information, or to get involved, please visit the Environment Initiative website or contact ajnelson@uoregon.edu.

Diversity Initiative

This initiative will support research and policy on diversity and inclusion, with an emphasis on efforts to broaden participation in higher education. The initiative will focus on developing strategies to increase diversity and inclusion across the university, with an emphasis on efforts to broaden participation in higher education. The initiative will focus on developing strategies to increase diversity and inclusion across the university, with an emphasis on efforts to broaden participation in higher education. The initiative will focus on developing strategies to increase diversity and inclusion across the university, with an emphasis on efforts to broaden participation in higher education. The initiative will focus on developing strategies to increase diversity and inclusion across the university, with an emphasis on efforts to broaden participation in higher education.

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