Dear University of Oregon Colleagues,

I am writing to update you on several initiatives that have been active in recent weeks, which are aligned with our university’s strategic vision of embracing our role—and impact—as a major public research university.

Here is some information about the progress of these initiatives:

**Diversity Initiative**
- This initiative is focused on how, through our multi-disciplinary academic strengths, we can lead and take action against systemic racism.
- Under the direction of Professor of Biology Bill Cresko, the initiative is designed to support the incubation of data science majors at UO by the end of the current academic year. A graduate program is in the works with formal course delivery planned for this winter, has dramatically exceeded our enrollment goals and we anticipate there will be 50 students enrolled in the program.

**Data Science Initiative**
- Under the initiative, we will soon be launching a Data Science Research Services unit, a group of analysts working with the top data science majors at UO. It will look to expand the university’s data science capabilities.
- Fundamentally, this initiative is about making decisions earlier, faster, and better, and nowhere is that more true than in the arena of data science, where our ability to make evidence-based decisions can lead to better outcomes and faster results.
- To learn more, visit the Data Science Initiatives website or contact Andrew at aamos@uoregon.edu.

**Environmental Initiative**
- This initiative is focused on how, through our multi-disciplinary academic strengths, we can lead and take action against climate change and environmental degradation.
- With the recent opening of the Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact presenting new challenges and opportunities, we are among the best in the nation. Our worldwide reputation in college athletics often overshadows our commitment to environmental sustainability and the need for our university to be a leader in the fight against climate change.
- For more information, or to get involved, please visit the Environmental Initiative website or contact Adell at ggood@uoregon.edu.

**Sports and Wellness Initiative**
- This initiative is focused on how, through our multi-disciplinary academic strengths, we can lead and take action to improve the health and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff.
- Under the initiative, we will be launching a Data Science Research Services unit, a group of analysts working with the top data science majors at UO. It will look to expand the university’s data science capabilities.
- Fundamentally, this initiative is about making decisions earlier, faster, and better, and nowhere is that more true than in the arena of data science, where our ability to make evidence-based decisions can lead to better outcomes and faster results.
- To learn more, visit the Data Science Initiatives website or contact Andrew at aamos@uoregon.edu.

**Innovation Initiative**
- This initiative is focused on how, through our multi-disciplinary academic strengths, we can lead and take action to improve the health and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff.
- Under the initiative, we will be launching a Data Science Research Services unit, a group of analysts working with the top data science majors at UO. It will look to expand the university’s data science capabilities.
- Fundamentally, this initiative is about making decisions earlier, faster, and better, and nowhere is that more true than in the arena of data science, where our ability to make evidence-based decisions can lead to better outcomes and faster results.
- To learn more, visit the Data Science Initiatives website or contact Andrew at aamos@uoregon.edu.

**Fundamental Research Initiative**
- This initiative is focused on how, through our multi-disciplinary academic strengths, we can lead and take action to improve the health and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff.
- Under the initiative, we will be launching a Data Science Research Services unit, a group of analysts working with the top data science majors at UO. It will look to expand the university’s data science capabilities.
- Fundamentally, this initiative is about making decisions earlier, faster, and better, and nowhere is that more true than in the arena of data science, where our ability to make evidence-based decisions can lead to better outcomes and faster results.
- To learn more, visit the Data Science Initiatives website or contact Andrew at aamos@uoregon.edu.

**Other Initiatives**
- The Diversity Initiative is one piece of the larger ecosystem we are working to establish, in order to understand and address the systemic racism that affects Black faculty, students, and staff. This includes launching the UO’s first-ever undergraduate major in Black Studies.
- Additionally, up to six additional new positions will be allocated for new faculty members into departments and programs that are underrepresented in faculty demographics, leading to a more welcoming to students, faculty, and staff of color. The new positions will support diversity and inclusion across the university with a strong culture of interdisciplinary activity to a growing tide of elite institutions using data science to drive social equity.
- For more information, or to get involved, please visit the Diversity Initiative website or contact Lesley-Anne at la.pittard@uoregon.edu.

**Innovate Portland**
- This initiative is focused on how, through our multi-disciplinary academic strengths, we can lead and take action to improve the health and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff.
- Under the initiative, we will be launching a Data Science Research Services unit, a group of analysts working with the top data science majors at UO. It will look to expand the university’s data science capabilities.
- Fundamentally, this initiative is about making decisions earlier, faster, and better, and nowhere is that more true than in the arena of data science, where our ability to make evidence-based decisions can lead to better outcomes and faster results.
- To learn more, visit the Data Science Initiatives website or contact Andrew at aamos@uoregon.edu.

These five initiatives focus on areas of strength, growth, and potential related to the environment, innovation, health and wellness, society, and economic development. They are aligned on an overarching goal of making the University of Oregon a place where anything is possible.

Here are some steps that you can take to help us continue to make progress on these initiatives:

- **Subscribe to the university’s newsletter**
- **Follow us on social media**
- **Get involved**

Thank you for your commitment to the University of Oregon and to our shared mission of making our world a better place.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Title]