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Update June 12, 2020

Update from President Chesley

Today the College received initial guidance from the Governor's Office and the Oregon Health Authority about the reopening of in-person higher education in our state. Change is coming.

This change, however, will require preparation, thoughtfulness and patience. We are still in the midst of a pandemic, and we need to do our work with that fact in mind.

Our primary goal in reopening remains the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff.

As previously communicated, for the 2020 Fall term, COCC plans to offer some in-person instruction at all campuses this fall, along with online, remote and hybrid options for students. The College's Reopening Task Force continues to meet several times a week to build a robust reopening plan ahead of Fall term. This group will ensure that all COCC policies and protocols meet the latest OHA guidelines, as well as all applicable state and local regulations. It is possible that, in some decisions, we may choose to be more cautious than guidelines would permit us to be.

Not surprisingly, we may receive further changes and/or clarifications to the new guidance from state leadership in the weeks ahead. COCC is prepared to be as nimble and responsive as necessary. We will continue to update our communications with students, faculty, staff, and our Central Oregon community at large as we prepare for a safe and health reopening this fall. Today's OHA guidance offers us the first step towards in-person reopening, and I am confident in our shared ability to navigate the path ahead.

Kindest regards,
Dr. Laurie Chesley
COCC President