

April 16, 2009

09-077

AUTHORIZE INCREASE IN TUITION FOR CREDIT COURSES FOR THE 2009-2010 AND 2010-2011 ACADEMIC YEARS (THE 2009-2011 BIENNIUM)

PREPARED BY: Cherie Chevalier, Associate Vice President, Finance

APPROVED BY: Wing Kit-Chung, Vice President, Administrative Services
Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President

REPORT: The Portland Community College (PCC) Proposed Budget for the 2009-2011 biennium assumes a tuition increase of \$4.00 per credit hour for the 2009-2010 academic year (5.7%) and \$2.00 per credit hour for the 2010-2011 academic year (2.7%) for all credit classes. The rates will be \$74.00 and \$76.00 per credit hour respectively. The increases are in line with the Board's direction to not radically increase tuition charges to students. At the time of the writing of this resolution many Oregon community colleges have not announced their tuition changes for FY2009-2010, and fees charged at most other Oregon community colleges tend to be higher than those of PCC. However, for those colleges that have announced, their rates of increase are substantially higher than those proposed in this resolution.

PCC competes with Seattle area community colleges as well as the Portland metropolitan colleges and universities including Portland State University for international students. Staff also recognizes that the non-resident (international students) tuition rate at PCC needs to be slightly less than the rates at Seattle colleges in order to stay competitive. After research and discussion, staff recommends the rate increase \$4.00 (2%) per credit hour to \$202.00 for 2009-2010 and increase \$2.00 (1%) per credit hour to \$204.00 for 2010-2011 keeping the rate below Seattle area community colleges and about the same as the other three community colleges in the Portland metropolitan area. PCC non-resident tuition is about half of what Portland State University charges for international students per credit.

Since PCC increased the minimum tuition rates substantially four years ago for Community Education (CED) and Continuing Education (CEU) programs, staff does not see a need to raise the rate again for the 2009-2011 biennium. These programs are designated to be largely self sufficient. In addition, actual tuition and fees for CED and CEU programs are usually determined by what the market will bear and the cost of providing such programs. Tuition for these programs is often higher than the minimum.

RECOMMENDATION: That the following tuition rates for credit courses become effective for the biennium 2009-2011.

1. Credit Courses:

Resident

Oregon residents, who are under the age of 62, will be charged \$74.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2009 and \$76.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2010.

Border State Resident

Residents of states bordering Oregon (Washington, Idaho, Nevada and California), who are under the age of 62, will be charged \$74.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2009 and \$76.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2010.

Non-Resident

Persons not residing in Oregon or bordering states (including all international students) will be charged \$202.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2009 and \$204 per credit hour effective Summer Term 2010.

Students who are 62 years and older

For those who are 62 years of age or older, a discount of up to 50% of the respective rate could be granted by the College at the discretion of the District President.

Exception for Credit Courses

Higher rates for the respective tuition categories will not be charged. Reductions to credit course rates must be approved on a case-by-case basis by the appropriate Campus President and the District President.

2. Non-Credit Courses – No change:

Community Education (CED)

The minimum rate charged for CED courses will remain at \$4.00 per contact hour for the 2009-2011 biennium.

Continuing Education (CEU)

The minimum rate charged for CEU courses will remain at \$5.70 per contact hour for the 2009-2011 biennium.