



Oregon State
University

FAC Agenda Item 4c

Capital Project Stage Gate II: OSU-Cascades Student Success Center

Finance & Administration Committee
April 13, 2023



OSU-Cascades Student Success Center

State Funding*

\$8.8M XI-Q bonds, \$5.0M XI-G bonds

**Approved by legislature in 2021*

Matching Funds

\$7.8M OSU revenue bonds retired by E&G (\$4.0M)
and student fees (\$3.8M)

Project Description

- One-stop shop for academic, career, personal health and wellness, and social support.
- Spaces for study, academic advising, health services, career counseling, informal gathering, multicultural programs, student government, student clubs and a coffee shop.
- Infrastructure and utilities supporting the buildout of the net-zero energy campus.



OSU-Cascades SSC: Student Impact

- Increase graduation and retention rates, prepare for workforce and connect to employers.
- First-year students up 17% in fall 2022; similar increase projected fall 2023.
- University transition services are critical to build connection with the campus community, and especially for first-generation (24%), low-income (32%) and students of color (21%).
- HECC Strategic Capital Development Plan: OSU-Cascades has 52% of the academic support spaces its students need. This project will reduce that 28,165-sf deficit.

“Research shows that supportive relationships and meaningful learning experiences are vital to students’ long-term well-being. To be successful, many students need help overcoming nonacademic barriers that colleges are helping to lower. Along with food and housing, childcare, and transportation, mental health is increasingly recognized as a key to student success. The stakes are especially high for low-income, minority, and first-generation college students, who have traditionally had a harder time navigating academe’s hidden curriculum.”

- *“Importance of Student Belonging”, The Chronicle of Higher Education.*

Recommendation

Staff recommend that the Finance & Administration Committee recommend to the Board approval of the OSU-Cascades Student Success Center project to the next phase of work, construction, at a budget of \$21.6M.