July 1, 2013

Professor Margie Paris
President, University Senate
University of Oregon

Dear Senate President Paris,

This correspondence serves to formalize and affirm my commitment to the University of Oregon Constitution. As I expressed in a statement posted to the president's website on May 20, 2013, the constitution, signed by the university president on December 14, 2011, remains in effect and does not require my additional signature. I have no intention of seeking any modifications to the constitution except as provided for in the constitution itself.

Further, understand that my commitment to shared governance at the University of Oregon is deep and abiding, both as defined explicitly in our constitution and as implemented through broadly inclusive decision making on matters not specifically addressed in the constitution. I believe unequivocally that shared governance is indispensable to the success of a public research university such as ours.

I look forward to working together with you and the senate toward our shared goal of building on this university's many strengths and strengthening its position as an institution dedicated to education and research at the highest levels. I also look forward to regular meetings with you, throughout the year, a practice that President Kyr and I established which allowed us to stay in close contact and to explore issues as they arose. This vehicle was in addition to our regularly scheduled weekly meetings with the Faculty Advisory Committee.

All the Best,

Michael Gottfredson
President