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October 3, 2001

Les Ruark
14028 Lower Rock Creek Lane
(Rural Route Delivery)
Arlington, OR 97812

Re: Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order:
Oregon University System

Dear Mr. Ruark:

This letter is the Attorney General's order on your petition for disclosure of records under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.410 to 192.505. Your petition, which we received on September 26, 2001, asks the Attorney General to direct the Oregon University System to provide you a copy of an August 28, 2001, memorandum and attachment addressed to the President of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education from the State's Chancellor of Higher Education regarding the search for a new chancellor. For the reasons that follow, we respectfully deny your petition.

The Public Records Law confers a right to inspect any public records of a public body in Oregon, subject to certain exemptions and limitations. *See* ORS 192.420. Any person denied the right to inspect or to receive a copy of a public record may petition the Attorney General to determine whether the record may be withheld from inspection. ORS 192.450(1).

We spoke with Benjamin Rawlins, Legal Counsel for the Oregon University System regarding your petition. Mr. Rawlins has agreed to disclose the requested records to you.

Because the Oregon University System is going to provide you with copies of the records requested, we deny your petition as moot.

Sincerely,

PETER D. SHEPHERD
Deputy Attorney General

AGS08676
c: Benjamin E. Rawlins, OUS