Dear Trustee,

It is an honor to welcome you as a nominee for the inaugural group of Trustees of the University of Oregon. I am both humbled and proud to serve as your President at this signal moment in the University’s history. I am as eager as you are to begin the important work before us!

This notebook is the first in an array of tools we will provide you to get us started. So that you may become broadly knowledgeable about the University, we have provided high level information on a number of topics: mission, governance, and organization of the University; diversity; academic programs and the academic plan; faculty and staff; research; students; finance; athletics; fundraising; and benchmarking to our peers. A statistical summary of key facts is displayed in the UO Snapshot 2013. There is plenty of room to add more information here as our conversations evolve.

Over the coming months, we will begin conversations about our mission and the strategies best suited to advance it. We are in the final stages of planning a new strategic capital campaign, with bold ambitions for helping create the tools necessary to move forward. We have undertaken some reorganization in anticipation of the campaign and are looking forward to the opportunity our new governance structure provides to enable it. We will use benchmarks — those displayed here as well as others that will be added later — as a launching point, and we will tie them to the capital campaign and the academic plan. We will work together creatively and thoughtfully to build a sustainable funding approach for the future.

We have an exciting year ahead. I look forward to welcoming you at our initial orientation.

Best regards,

Michael R. Gottfredson
President