

The Student Action Coalition Presents:

# The Administrative & Student Debt Fact Sheet You Never Knew You Wished You Had

[www.PSUSU.org](http://www.PSUSU.org)

## ACADEMIC QUALITY

- In Summer of 2013, **81 courses were cut**, some with a week or less notice.
- In AAUP faculty collective bargaining this Fall (2013), the administration's bargaining team **would not even consider or discuss** proposed Article 44 which dealt with class size and faculty workload caps, faculty retaining rights to intellectual property they create for courses, and **administrative evaluations by students**, faculty, and staff, and more. **Instead, they called it "ludicrous" and that was the end of that.**
- The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Science (CLAS) is telling department chairs to **cut up to 8% of their budgets** for the '14/'15 AY, largely from personnel. The administration wants to blame this on campus workers having won a better contract than the Oregon University System wanted to give them (SEIU workers threatened to strike on the first day of Fall 2013 term after 8 months of unproductive negotiations). The real source of the budget deficit is declining state higher ed appropriations, financial mismanagement, and lucrative administrative salaries. (PSU-AAUP website/bargaining updates)
- Among peer universities shared by U of O, OSU, and PSU for the '11/'12 AY, **PSU ranked dead last - 19th place out of 19 - for mean faculty pay**. This makes it difficult for departments to retain high quality instructors. (OUS Fact Book 2012)
- Among PSU-only peer universities, **PSU also ranks dead last - 10th place out of 10 - for mean faculty pay**. (OUS Fact Book 2012)

## ADMINISTRATIVE PAY

- Between Fall of '11 and Spring of '13, combined administration payroll **went up 13%**

- Administrative pay is currently between **\$43-44 million dollars a year**. (the PSU budget = ~\$549m annually, roughly **12.7% just on administrative pay**, not even total costs of administration).
- If we rolled combined admin pay back to where it was in June of '11, **we would save PSU ~\$5,000,000 - a full THIRD of its budget deficit**.
- We would **save another ~\$1,500,000** by rolling combined admin benefits to where they were in June of '11.
- President Wim Wiewel made \$468,994 in the 11/12 AY *before* benefits that include a **PSU-provided mansion that he drives a PSU-provided car to that is cleaned by PSU-provided workers** (PSU Vanguard,
- Before benefits, his take-home pay = **~71 years of in-state tuition**
- He has an option to take up to \$540,000, but he's humble enough not to.
- President Wiewel's additional benefits package from the PSU Foundation (not from the university but from the private fundraising arm loosely affiliated with it) is **not publicly disclosed**
- The Office of the President has a travel budget equal to just over a **FULL TENTH** of the travel budget for every single professor at PSU combined. (\$118,000/y just for travel).
- The Office of Finance & Administration gets another \$96,000/y just for travel.
- VP/Provost of Academic Affairs (OAA) **Sona Andrews made \$283,128** in the 11/12 AY before benefits.
- This equals roughly **~43 years of in-state tuition**.
- She gets paid **\$65,000 MORE** than the previous Provost of Academic Affairs, why exactly is unclear.
- She also tried to kill [Chiron Studies](#) by cutting its \$25,000 budget (despite the fact that it made ~\$125,000/y in the '11/'12 AY) **by 100%**. (Due to direct action on part of students, she was unsuccessful and it is being rehoused in UNST).
- Adjusting for inflation, an analysis of publicly available data pertaining to PSU administration carried out by Florida International University's Center for Labor Research & Studies shows that between 2002-2012:

- the Provost's salary shot up by 46%
- Vice Provosts' average salaries leapt by 43%.
- Vice Presidents' average salaries rose by 29%
- Associate Vice Presidents' average salaries grew by 19%, and
- Assistant Vice Presidents' average salaries increase by 23%.

### ADMINISTRATIVE MISMANAGEMENT & IRRESPONSIBILITY

- There are currently **more than 540 managers and administrators** (AKA unclassified staff) working for Portland State. This is **nearly three quarters of the total number of full-time faculty** employed by the university.
- The number of executive administrators (level of Assistant Dean and up) **INCREASED 65% in the past decade** (from 31 to 51).
- **Athletics currently loses ~\$447,000/y** despite the fact that budget lines allocated as 'auxiliary funds' are supposed to be self-supporting. (VP Rimai's presentation at PSU-AAUP collective bargaining)
- Scholarships for athletes are essential to keeping PSU an institution that is truly accessible, but does the football coach (who makes just under \$200,000/y) need **SIX assistant coaches that each make roughly \$70,000/y?**
- Between 2011-2013, **the administration spent \$550,067 on hiring searches for new administrators.**
- At PSU Convene's "From Debt To Degree" PSU President Wiewel claimed national student loan debt was at \$870,000,000,000 (\$870 billion). This figure is several years out of date (it's actually \$330b higher, at **\$1.2 trillion**). This shows just how truly out of touch this administration is.
- PSU currently **spends millions each year from the general fund** and money allocated for what are supposed to be self-sufficient 'auxiliaries' **servicing institutional debt.**
  - 2012-2013: \$21.8 million dollars
  - 2013-2014: \$21.7 million dollars (projected)
  - 2014-2015: \$21.5 million dollars (projected)

(data from VP Rimai's presentation at PSU-AAUP collective bargaining)

- When PSU received ARRA funds (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) in order to soften the blow of reduced income tax revenue to the state and thus reduced state revenue for the university, FADM budgeted as if this explicitly 2-year funding boost would be a permanent income stream. This led to a ballooning budget hole (which they're jacking up our tuition/attacking our teachers' pay and job security to fill) immediately after the funding dried up. An eight year old could've budgeted better. What exactly are we paying these people for again? (data from VP Rimai's presentation at PSU-AAUP collective bargaining)

### AFFORDABILITY & ACCESS

- Oregon University students now [pay 20% more](#) for public higher ed than the national average.
- In 2012, the entire Oregon University System graduated **only 500 students** that identified as Black or Latin@ (data from the Oregon Student Association)
- PSU students average \$28,000 in debt upon graduation, **\$4000 higher than the state average** (OUS Fact Book 2012)
- Since 2007, PSU tuition has **gone up over \$1000 dollars** (OUS Fact Book 2012)
- Even after receiving the Pell Grant, the cost of a degree at an Oregon public university was **equal to about 27% of the medium family income** in 2010/11 in Oregon.
- Tuition at PSU rose 8.5% during the '09/'10 school year (OUS Fact Book 2012)
- Our Fall 2013 tuition increase was more than \$250 for an in-state student, roughly equal to:
  - 3 months of groceries
  - 5 tanks of gas
  - 2 months of utilities
  - ½ a month's rent
  - ½ a month's pay at a part-time, minimum wage job

(data from the Oregon Student Association)

- Since 1978, when they began [tracking it](#), the cost of public higher ed in the USA **has risen 1120%**
- **ONE IN TEN** recent graduates of four-year colleges have **monthly student loan payments that exceed 25% of their monthly income.**
- **2/3rds of students** leave school with an average of \$27,000 in debt.
- The situation is so dire that **41% of the class of 2008 is already delinquent or in default.**
- **In 2012, student loan debt surpassed the \$1 trillion mark.** This is higher than credit card debt, and any other consumer debt **combined** exempting mortgage loan debt.
- The **cost of public colleges has risen 500% since 1985**, due to neoliberal policy-making shifting the financial burden of higher-ed. from the state to the individual.
- Even federal student loans taken directly from the government are often serviced by the once-public, **now-fully-privatized** Sallie Mae.
- In 1998, federally-back student loans were **declared ineligible for bankruptcy.**
- In 2005, Congress extended this ‘protection’ to private student loans as well. **Student loan debt is the only type of debt categorically exempt from discharge through bankruptcy.**
- Simultaneously, lenders were granted unprecedented collection powers such as seizing tax returns without requesting a legal hearing, as well as garnishing your wages, your disability payments and Social Security. Currently, **160,000 Americans are having their Social Security checks garnished because of student loan debt.**
- One average, **120% of a defaulted student loan is collected.**
- In 2001, Sallie Mae was caught defaulting loans without attempting to first collect the debt. In 2003, Sallie Mae posted record-breaking profits due in significant part to collections on defaulted loans.
- Just like in the mortgage crisis of 2008, one thing that happens to student loan debt is called securitization. They are packaged together and sold to the highest bidder as ‘Student Loan Asset-Backed Securities’ (SLABS, because you’re just a slab of meat after all). SLABS account for roughly a quarter of student loan debt. Often they are packaged

with other kinds of loans and traded on secondary debt markets. Investors are speculating on and profiting from the risk-status of student loans.

- Only 37% of student loans are in 'repayment' at any given time. The other 63% are accruing interest, adding fees and becoming more and more likely to add to the 5 million student loans already in default.
- **53% of recent grads (bachelor's degree) are jobless or underemployed.**
- Between 2007 and 2012, student loan delinquencies rose 27%.
- 13% of students with loans due in 2009 defaulted by 2012; another 26% are delinquent.
- The number of students who have to go to into debt to get a bachelor's degree has risen from 45% in 1993 to 94% today.
- 24% of students with student debt have delayed continuing their education for fear of increasing their student debt-load.
- America's student loan debt is growing at **a rate of \$2854 per second.**
- In 10 years, there will be more people with degrees than jobs that require degrees.
- 48% of adults ages 18 to 34 can't afford to attend college.