EDUCAUSE 2003  
Current Issue Roundtable – Budget and Funding Summary  
Wednesday, Nov. 5th – 4:55 p.m. – 6:10 p.m. - Ballroom C  
Curt Pederson, Vice Provost for IS, Oregon State University,  
curt.pederson@oregonstate.edu

Pederson Opening Remarks:

Reality: life, love, and pursuit of a balanced budget!

- I heard a colleague say: “If you are not depressed yet, you don’t understand our reality.”
- This dismal economic reality may not be as horrible as you think!
- I think it is a great time for leadership that loves a good challenge.
- Crisis helps define or eliminate the “old rules.”
- I personally refuse to manage despair and decline.
- Be lean but never mean.

Chinese Symbol – Opportunity & Crisis?

- Crisis provides the opportunity to weed the garden.
- Do not renew contracts for non or poor performers.
- Shed some legacy functions.

Group Brainstorming: Opportunities for new revenue?

Raise student technology fees.

- Threaten to drop a core service and be prepared to drop it!
- Invest, with student participation, in services supporting student success: instruction portals, improved electronic access, enhanced classrooms, etc.
- Consider an RFP process, with students at the table.

Look at cell site potential.

- Today’s technology is more compact and safe.
- Change policies to support cell antennas and collect up to $1,200 a month for each antenna!
• Some cell companies offer student cell service and will share a percentage of the revenue.

Open Source Opportunities

• Often misunderstood, offers an opportunity to be less reliant on commercial software and do more relevant real-time development.
• Mozilla, MIT freeware, Linux are examples.

Network Collaboration

• Partner with private sector on community fiber strategies.
• Share bandwidth and revenue where possible.
• Challenge will be negotiations and approvals.

Other notables:

• Marshall University held a successful “yard sale.”
• Encourage patents and technology transfer/licensing.
• Work on improved cost recovery strategies.
• Set limits on storage space and sell extra disc space.