

Western Oregon University Board of Trustees: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee (DEIAC) Meeting No. 10– Feb 2, 2024 2:30pm – 4:00pm Via Zoom | Meeting ID: 833 8858 4511 | By Phone: 1-253-215-8782

## <u>AGENDA</u>

- I. CALL-TO-MEETING AND ROLL CALL
- II. COMMITTEE CHAIR'S WELCOME
- III. CONSENT AGENDA
  - 1) Approval of the October 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- IV. ACTION ITEMS:
  - 1) <u>Recommend the Approval of the Equity Assessment Action Plan</u>

### V. REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 1) Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update | Dominique Vargas
- 2) Development of an Equity Lens Guide/Toolkit | Dominique Vargas
  - a) Example of Other Tools to Review:
    - i) <u>Clackamas Community College: Interim Equitable Decision-Making</u> Framework
    - ii) Clark College: Equitable Decision-Making Tool
    - iii) Minnesota State: Applying An Equity Lens to Policy Review
    - iv) MP Associates: Racial Equity Decision-Making Tool (REDT)
    - v) Inclusion Counts: Equity Filter

### VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Set next DEIAC Meeting:
- Save the Date: HSI Summit April 26, 2024 at Western Oregon University

### VII. ADJOURNMENT

#### **Board of Trustees**

## Western Oregon University Board of Trustees: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee (DEIAC) Meeting No. 8 –Friday, October 20, 2023 11:00am – 1:00pm

## **MINUTES**

## I. CALL-TO-MEETING AND ROLL CALL

Chair Koontz (Designee Chair in the Absence of Chair Castillo) Calls the meeting to order on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 11am. Asked Secretary Sorce to call the roll.

**Committee Members:** Chair Cecilia Koontz, Trustee Danielle Campbell, Trustee Cas Wonsowicz

Excused Member: Chair Susan Castillo

Staff in Attendance: President Jesse Peters, Dominique Vargas, Evan Sorce

### II. COMMITTEE CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Koontz welcomes the attendees to the first DEIAC meeting of the academic year. Let the committee know that Chair Castillo needs to miss the meeting to address a personal matter.

### III. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Koontz requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the June 1st, 2023 meeting of the DEIAC. These meeting minutes can be found in the October 20th docket for review. Trustee Campbell makes the motion, and Trustee Wonsowicz seconds the motion. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

## IV. ACTION ITEM:

- 1) Review of the Committee Charter
- V. Chair Koontz asked Dominique Vargas, WOU's Executive Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), to give the background on the Committee Charter, which was rereferred back to the Committee by the Board of Trustees to address a couple of issues to bring this charter in alignment with the other committee charters. The revised Committee Trustee Campbell moved to accept the changes to the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Committee Charter. Trustee Wonsowicz seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

## VI. REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

1) Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update | Dominique Vargas – Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office

There was a question for Director Vargas about Title IX compliance: Is the Board required to take that training? Board members are not employees, so they are not required at this time; a Board member is, of course, welcome to take the training if they are interested. Last year was the first year Title IX training was required, and we got 85% compliance from staff and faculty. Trustee Wonsowicz stated that he will be focused on ways to identify funding for these kinds of efforts best, and also emphasized how impressive an 85% response rate is for this kind of training.

2) Equity Assessment Action Plan Presentation | Dominique Vargas Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office

Executive Director Vargas presented the Equity Assessment Action Plan Presentation. The Equity Assessment Plan Summary, Equity Assessment Action Plan, and Equity Assessment Impact Considerations are in the October 20, 2023 docket for review. After Director Vargas presented the plan, she mentioned that the next steps were bringing this policy to the President's Cabinet for feedback and updates. There was then an extensive discussion about the physical accessibility of our campus and how this work information additional work around campus. There was a robust conversation about how to better communicate with students about events and opportunities on campus, including the potential of updating the My WOU App.

## VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

HSI Summit is here at WOU in the Werner Center on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Executive Director Vargas is also in talks about having an event for students only the night before but that is not confirmed.

Homecoming Events all Weekend long this weekend.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:01pm



#### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report – January 19, 2024

Dominique Vargas, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

#### The Office

The office is recruiting to hire three positions a Title IX Coordinator, Assistant Director for Hispanic Serving Institution Initiatives, and an Executive Assistant.

#### **Equity Assessment**

Western Oregon University continues to engage with Jordan Shelby West, PhD in our university-wide equity assessment.

The Equity Assessment Action Plan has been reviewed by the Board of Trustees and Cabinet. The University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee has continued review and to make updates based on feedback.

The next step for the action plan, is for Senior Leadership will review the action plan at the end of January, to assign someone as the owner of each initiative to continue or initiate the work.

A final working draft of the action plan will ready ahead of the February Board meeting.

The next step in the equity assessment is Phase IV. Phase IV is the development, implementation, and analysis of a university wide climate survey. A climate survey committee is being formed, which includes members of Human Resources, Institutional Research, Marketing and Communication, Shared Governance (ASWOU, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate), Student Affairs, and University Computing Solutions. While the survey will be developed by Dr. West, the committee will offer feedback on survey questions. The committee will also develop a communication and implementation plan for the survey. The committee will then ensure implementation of the plans. The committee's work will begin in February 2024 (with formation of the committee) and continue until the end of Fall term (following the conclusion of the survey).

#### **Cultural Competence Based Professional Development**

In alignment with the Equity Assessment Action Plan and Western's responsibility to comply with <u>Oregon House Bill 2864</u>, the office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is hosted the second opportunity for this academic year on Friday, January 19; 200 individuals participated.

Opportunities that can be made available asynchronously, following the synchronous opportunity, are available made available in the DEI Canvas Course. Individuals can self-enroll in the course by completing this form.

Spring opportunities are currently in development.

#### Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Designation

As of January 18, 2024, the office of Institutional Research estimates 25.07% of Western's undergraduate students identify as Hispanic/Latino/a/e. While exciting news, it is important to note this number will not be considered official until confirmed and submitted to IPEDs in April. To become a Hispanic Serving Institution 25% of Western's undergraduate students much identify as Hispanic/Latino/a/e and we must maintain that minimum percentage for at least three

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years prior to receiving the designation. Once we reach this goal, then we must continue to meet the minimum percentage to maintain the designation. The priority for Western continues to be truly serving our students.

The HSI Advisory Committee currently includes: Doris Cancel-Tirado (co-chair), Julian Elizalde, Kathy Espino-Perez, Anna Hernandez-Hunter (co-chair) Rico Lujan Valerio, Mary Pettenger, David Szpakowski, and Dominique Vargas. The committee has recruited two students: Andy Rincon and Daizy Hernandez.

The Hispanic Serving Institution Advisory Committee met on January 18, 2024 to discuss this updated data and next steps. While the committee continues to monitor the numbers, they will begin to assess current ways the university is serving our students. The committee will develop a proposal for Senior Leadership's consideration regarding gathering division/department information about current initiatives being led to better serve our student populations, with an emphasis on Hispanic/Latino/a/e students. This data gathering will help us better understand where we are now in terms of serving students to help chart a better path forward.

The Hispanic Serving Institution Summit save-the-dates went out in early January, and about 50 individuals had already registered as of the drafting of this report (1/19/24). The primary focus of this year's summit is servingness. In addition to the one day summit, the working group is planning smaller engagement opportunities in the week leading up to the summit to increase student engagement; two examples: (1) tabling in Werner University Center to passively educate the community about what being a HSI means and why that matters to us in addition to opportunities for folks to share what servingness means to them, (2) Taco-bout it Tuesday for students to engage in dialogue about servingness and in what ways they feel Western is serving them and in what ways Western is falling short.

This year's working group includes Jamiere Abney, Chelle Batchelor, Doris Cancel-Tirado, Brittany Kima, Sarah Lockwood, and Dominique Vargas. The next HSI Summit is scheduled for Friday, April 26, 2024.

### Title IX

In Summer 2023, <u>Oregon House Bill 3456</u> was passed. This House Bill is up for revision during the short session this February 2024. In response to this bill, new asynchronous training for all employees was developed in Canvas and was made available to all employees before the conclusion of the fall term. A slightly modified version is being developed for students.

In collaboration with university partners, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is currently updating Title IX procedures.

New Title IX regulations are expected from the federal government sometime this academic year. When these regulations are available, there will likely be additional revision for relevant policies and procedures.

#### LGBTQ2SIA+ Student Success Grant

Western was awarded an extension/amendment for the LGBTQ2SIA+ Student Success Grant. The LGBTQ2SIA+ Student Success grant is based in the Oregon's <u>LGBTQ2SIA+ Student</u> <u>Success Plan</u>. Western alum, Melody Barrett has been hired part-time to coordinate the grant project, which is a partnership with Central School District.

#### **Freedom Center**

The Freedom Center is open this winter term with continued co-directors Ana-Malia Fernandez and Aneli Godinez-Martinez. Danielle Histo has also joined the team.

In the fall, the Freedom Center updated their resource offerings for students, they co-facilitated Latinx Jeopardy with the Unidos student organization for Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month, and they hosted a moving night to celebrate Native American Heritage Month.

This winter they are collaborating with Black Student Union to present "For the Culture" a full day of events in the university center during Black History Month (February 21, 2024). They are also collaborating with Hawaii Club to bring a luau to Western on May 31, 2024.

#### **University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee**

The University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee has been working on the equity assessment action plan. They met to discuss revisions based on President Peters, Cabinet, and Board of Trustees feedback. Updates to the action plan have been made, and is what Senior Leadership will use as we move into next steps discussed in the equity assessment section of this report.

UDIAC is currently considering development of an equity lens guide/toolkit to assist with decision making, policy revision, etc. especially in relation to equity assessment action plan initiatives to assist with moving the work forward.

#### Miscellaneous

The office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Center for Professional Pathways, Human Resources and Office of Disability Services are working together to provide to professional development opportunities for Spring term, which stemmed from the Fireside Chat hosted by President Peters, Tina Fuchs and Dominique Vargas in November 2023. There wes a requet for opportunities to discuss (1) Navigating disability services in job searches and the workplace, and (2) Navigating gender diversity and LGBTQ2SIA+ identities in job searches and the workplace. These opportunities are in development.

The office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is in the early stages of work with Earlene Camarillo, Tina Fuchs, Mary Pettenger, and Evan Sorce to consider opportunities for engagement within the Western community around deliberative democracy, civil discourse, freedom expression, interfaith dialogue, etc. The formation of this small group is a first step in supporting our community in this everchanging climate.



#### Equity Assessment Action Plan Summary

In June 2022, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee (DEIAC) of the Western Oregon University (WOU) Board of Trustees, charged Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Dominique Vargas, with leading WOU's efforts to engage in an equity assessment. DEAIC Chair, Susan Castillo, provided Vargas with a list of potential third-party consultants for the equity assessment. Vargas followed up with consultants throughout the summer and narrowed the field to four. These four potential consultants provided WOU with proposals. Senior Leadership chose Jordan Shelby West, PhD, based on her experience with higher education institutions and the multi-year approach she would take to the assessment.

WOU's Board of Trustees approve the financial expenditures for the equity assessment and consultant decision of Dr. West. WOU began conducting the equity assessment in November 2022 with Phase I. Phase I included qualitative data gathering through the use of research, focus groups, and one-to-one meetings. In May 2023, WOU received the Equity Assessment Phase I report from Dr. West. In May 2023, Dominique Vargas, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, established an Equity Assessment Team to turn assessment recommendations into initiatives for an action plan for the 2023-2024 academic year. Phase II of the assessment was conducted through a review of student related policy, procedures, programs, etc. The Phase II report was received in August 2023. Phase III of the assessment was conducted through a review of student related policy, programs, etc. The Phase III report was received in ... 2023. This Equity Assessment Team met through September 2023 and established the first draft of the equity assessment action plan. The University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee met twice more, once in Fall 2023 and once in Winter Term 2024 to lead efforts to get the current January 2024 draft of the equity assessment action plan for final revisions and approval.

#### **Equity Assessment Team**

The Equity Assessment Team, led by Vargas, included volunteers from the 2022-2023 University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, joined by two students recommended by Senior Leadership.

- Jaclyn Caires-Hurley, Associate Professor, College of Education
- Doris Cancel-Tirado, Professor, Health & Exercise Science
- Nicole Derrick, Junior, Community Health
- Gabriela Eyster, Construction Project Manager, Capital Planning & Construction
- Maria Fernandez, Director, Equity, Outreach & Inclusion, The Research Institute
- Maddux Gillett, Sophomore, Political Science
- Sarah Lockwood, Facilities Scheduling Manager, Student Engagement
- Chung-Fan Ni, Associate Professor, Deaf Studies & Professional Studies
- Mari Sakiyama, Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice Sciences
- Chris Solario, Director, Student Enrichment Program
- Judy Sylva, Associate Provost for Academic Effectiveness, Academic Affairs

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#### The Process

The team reviewed all relevant equity assessment materials. The recommendations from the report were first categorized by the equity assessment phase themes: Diversity and Inclusion, Communication and Technology, Accountability, Physical Environment and Safety, Community, Leadership. The newly categorized recommendations were matched with the three emerging values from May 2023, from the current WOU strategic planning process: Diversity and Respect, Community, and Accessibility. The recommendations were then further categorized within the seven goals of the WOU Diversity Action Plan, which include: Climate, Recruitment and Retention of Employees, Recruitment and Retention of Students, Curriculum and Pedagogy, Community Partnerships, Business Practices, and Facilities and Physical Plant. This alignment helped narrow the field of recommendations. The team then made considerations for four areas of impact: student impact, employee impact, financial resources, and people resources.

This process led to a focus on four key themes: accessibility, technology, recruitment and retention of students, and recruitment and retention of employees. Within each theme, there are short-, mid-, and long-term initiatives. Short-term is defined as something that could be reasonable to complete or have ready by the 2024-2025 academic year. Mid-term is defined as taking at least two, possibly three years. Then long-term is either an overarching goal, such as setting a university priority, or an initiative that would likely take more than three years to come to fruition.

#### The Review

In October 2023, the equity assessment action plan draft was shared with the Board of Trustees Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee for review and feedback. The draft plan was also shared with the President's Cabinet for review and feedback. Executive Director Vargas also met with several of the stakeholders that would be responsible for action plan initiatives (e.g., Human Resources, Academic Affairs, Student Success and Advising, etc.) to help determine if initiatives were ambitious, but attainable. The University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee discussed initial feedback and made updates to the action plan ahead of the November 2023 Board of Trustees meeting. Following the Board of Trustees meeting, members of the board had through the end of the year, December 2023) to provide any additional feedback.

This feedback was reviewed and discussed with a small cohort of the University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee; due to inclement weather, the meeting was conducted due to the wish to move work forward, with the recognition the group was not as robust as it usually would be.

Updates were made to the action plan following this meeting, and are what individuals reviewing the action plan through January 31 will review.

## The Initiatives

A list of the initiatives within each theme are listed below and fully outlined in the attached equity assessment action plan draft.

### **Accessibility**

Short-Term

- Establish accessibility as the 2023-2024 cultural competence focus for the university
- Establish an open-ended contract for Spanish interpreting services
- Promote communication with and utilization of the Office of Disability Services for students
- Require microphone usage at all major university meetings and programs; have programs and video communication set up for closed captioning and ASL interpretation

Mid-Term

• Equip all university event spaces with equipment for microphone usage and hybrid modality (could include portable equipment in centralized locations for checkout)

• Review and update policy and communication for all-person restrooms Long-Term

• Accessibility is a funding priority for WOU

### <u>Technology</u>

Short-Term

- Include the Director of University Computing Solutions on the President's Cabinet
- Assess utilization of the library's equipment borrowing system

Mid-Term

- Set up guidelines for website architecture
- Implement the institutional policy on names
- Centralize data analysis and reporting
- Ensure all university forms are electronic
- Establish credit/debit card access for all university services

Long-Term

• Technology infrastructure is a brought to industry standards and best practices

#### **Recruitment and Retention of Students**

Short-Term

- Provide more opportunities for senior leadership to engage with senior leadership
- WOU will join the group of 1000+ colleges/universities using the Common Application
- Update 2/3 tuition hold to set dollar amount
- Establish student resource modules (e.g., student orientation, online course tutorial, registration) for students on Canvas
- Create a virtual option for student orientation for remote/online students, commuter students, and transfer students

Mid-Term

- Review, evaluate, and revise advising systems and structures
- Review and revise the Code of Student Responsibility and disciplinary procedures to shift to a restorative justice framework

• Establish clear support systems for first-generation students *Long-Term* 

• Evaluate the MyWOU app and recommend the best path forward for an app that support students throughout their time at WOU, including Admissions through Graduation

### **Recruitment and Retention of Employees**

Short-Term

- Reimagine onboarding as a six-month to one year process
- Evaluate new employee orientation and restructure as needed
- Streamline search committee process
- Improve professional development opportunities for all employees
- Update the university harassment and discrimination policy

## Mid-Term

- Evaluate and update performance management tools that include training, workshops, and resources
- Develop and implement supervisor specific professional development program for supervisors, which is then followed up with a consistently available learning community
- Transition the Center for Academic Innovation to the Center of Teaching and Learning, expand the existing initiatives and resources.
- Develop/Redevelop and pilot mentorship programs (with consistency in mind, with specific and measurable outcomes)

## Long-Term

- Engage in a Classification and Compensation Project
- Conduct assessment of promotion and tenure process with an equity lens
- Development and promotion of junior faculty retention programs

### **Action Plan Next Steps**

The final week of January 2024/first week of February 2024 the action plan will be reviewed by Senior Leadership, the University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, and the Board of Trustees Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee for final feedback and updates. Senior Leadership will also designate who from Senior Leadership will be responsible for each initiative to help with accountability and process as we move this work forward.

After this review, a final draft of the action plan will be provided in the February 2024 Board of Trustees meeting docket.

#### **Equity Assessment Action Plan**

Establishing long-, mid-, and short-term action items working toward WOU's Diversity Action Plan goals

\*Table rows filled in light yellow are in process

\*Table rows filled in light green are complete

### Accessibility

- Applicable Diversity Action Plan Goals: Climate, Recruitment & Retention of Employees, Recruitment & Retention of Students, Facilities & Physical Plant
- Applicable Equity Assessment Themes: Diversity & Inclusion, Communication & Technology, Accountability, Physical Environment & Safety, Community, Leadership
- Applicable Strategic Plan Values: Diversity & Respect, Community, Accessibility

Initiative	Timeline/Due Date	Responsible	Is Funding Needed	Outcomes/Deliverables	
Short-Term					
Establish accessibility as the 2023-2024 cultural competence focus for the university	2023-2024	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion office, University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, University partners	Yes, DEI office partners with university departments/divisions to cover expenses associated with this initiative	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>At least one University professional development opportunity each term (fall, winter, spring) based on accessibility</li> <li>Attendance tracked at each session - end of the year report including participation breakdown (e.g., classified, unclassified, faculty, etc.)</li> <li>Feedback survey following each session - end of the year report</li> </ul>	

				of attendees' self-
Establish an anan	2022 2024	Diversity Faulty and	If convicts willing of Convicts	assessments
Establish an open- ended contract for Spanish interpreting services	2023-2024	Diversity Equity and Inclusion Office, Marketing and Communication, Human Resources, Student Affairs, Academic Affairs	If services utilized, Senior Leadership will need to determine whose responsibility the cost should be	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Contract between Student Engagement and Professional Interpreters expanded to include all university departments</li> <li>Implementation plan developed</li> <li>Communicate service availability</li> </ul>
Promote communication with and utilization of the Office of Disability Services for students • Office of Disability Services presentations to the WOU community • Update <u>Western</u> <u>Oregon Web</u> <u>Accessibility</u> Guidelines	2023-2024	Office of Disability Services, Academic Innovation, University Computing Solutions, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Office, Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Marketing and Communication	No	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Western Oregon Web Accessibility Guidelines updated</li> <li>Creating Accessible Content in Canvas updated</li> <li>Best Practices list/guide developed</li> <li>Distribution of materials through university communication</li> <li>Accessibility workshop(s) facilitated to educate regarding resources and best practices</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>Update <u>Creating</u> <u>Accessible</u> <u>Content in</u> <u>Canvas</u></li> <li>Develop list/guide of best practices and considerations for planning more accessible programs and events</li> <li>Require microphone usage at all major university meetings and programs; have programs and video communication set up for closed captioning and ASL interpretation</li> </ul>	2023-2024	Marketing and Communication, WOU Reservations, University Computing Solutions, Human Resources	Human Resources or the Office of Disability Services traditionally covers cost of closed captioning and ASL interpreters, if use exceeds budget could lead to a funding request	2023-2024 • Establish expectation • Communicate expectation and how to fulfill expectation to the university community
	Γ	Mid-Term		
Equip all university event spaces with equipment for microphone usage	2023-2025	University Computing Solutions, Facilities, Reservations	Additional funding request anticipated	2023-2024 • Assessment of need 2024-2025



and hybrid modality (could include portable equipment in centralized locations for checkout)				<ul> <li>Supplies ordered and installed</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> <li>Spaces ready for utilization</li> </ul>
Review and update policy and communication for all-person restrooms Include the establishment of a standardized protocol for university restroom and locker room/ changing room usage.	2023-2025	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Board of Trustees Secretary, Human Resources	No	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Committee formed for review</li> <li>Policy updated</li> <li>2024-2025</li> <li>Policy implemented</li> </ul>
		Long-tern		
Accessibility is a funding priority for WOU	Ongoing	Facility Services, Capitol Planning and Construction, Office of Disability Services, University Computing Solutions. Consider a joint initiative between University	No funding required for the first step in this priority, however, long-term will need to make budgetary considerations to increase accessibility, to be determined and assessed annually.	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Develop physical and digital accessibility policies         <ul> <li>Committee(s) formed to develop policies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

[]		
	Technology Advisory	<ul> <li>Drafted and</li> </ul>
	Committee and	reviewed
	University Diversity	<ul> <li>Public Comment</li> </ul>
	and Inclusion Advisory	<ul> <li>Approval</li> </ul>
	Committee.	<ul> <li>Implementation</li> </ul>
		plan
		plan
		2024 2025
		2024-2025
		Physical and digital
		accessibility policies
		rolled out
		2024-2025
		<ul> <li>Committee established</li> </ul>
		to review the 2014
		accessibility audit
		Review audit
		<ul> <li>Determine next steps to</li> </ul>
		begin to improve
		university accessibility,
		with initial
		recommendations to
		Cabinet by the end of
		Spring 2025

## Technology

- Applicable Diversity Action Plan Goals: Climate, Recruitment & Retention of Employees, Recruitment & Retention of Students, Curriculum & Pedagogy, Business Practices, Facilities & Physical Plant
- Applicable Equity Assessment Themes: Diversity & Inclusion, Communication & Technology, Accountability, Physical Environment & Safety, Community, Leadership
- Applicable Strategic Plan Values: Diversity & Respect, Community, Accessibility

Initiative	Timeline/Due Date	Responsible	Is Funding Needed	Outcomes/Deliverables		
	Short-Term					
Include the Director of University Computing Solutions on the President's Cabinet	2023-2024	President	No	<ul> <li>Fall 2023</li> <li>Director of University Computing Solutions on the President's Cabinet</li> </ul>		
Assess utilization of the library's equipment borrowing system • Increase advertisement for the equipment borrowing system regarding laptops and technology • Analyze usage and needs	2023-2024	Academic Affairs, Library, University Computing Solutions, Student Affairs, University Technology Advisory Committee	No	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Report of usage and assessment of need</li> <li>Update communication regarding borrowing system</li> <li>Fall 2024</li> <li>Recommendations regarding increased needs or modifications</li> </ul>		
		Mid-Tern	1			

Set up guidelines	2023-2024	University Computing	No	2023-2024
for website		Solutions, Marketing		Review and update of
architecture		and Communication,		the university website
<ul> <li>Review and</li> </ul>		individuals in		begins
clean up the		university community		<ul> <li>Establish guidelines for</li> </ul>
university		who have website		the university
website		editing permissions		community regarding
<ul> <li>Improve</li> </ul>				web accessibility,
accessibility of				responsiveness, and
website				language
<ul> <li>Improve the</li> </ul>				Fall 2024
responsivenes				<ul> <li>Guidelines established</li> </ul>
s of website				and shared with the
for mobile				university community to
devices (e.g.,				assist website editors in
phones and				their updates
iPads)				<ul> <li>Additional training for</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Review usage</li> </ul>				website editors
of Spanish on				available
website pages				
and make sure				
critical				
information				
(recruitment,				
admissions,				
financial aid,				
etc.) available				
in both English				
and Spanish				

Implement the institutional policy on names	2023-2025	Registrar, University Computing Solutions, Business Services, Financial Aid, Admissions, Human Resources	Not anticipated at this time	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Implementation plan drafted</li> <li>2024-2025</li> <li>Implementation plan begins</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> <li>Fully implemented</li> </ul>
Centralize data analysis and reporting	2023-2025	University Technology Advisory Committee, University Computing Solutions, Institutional Research	No funding required for the initial step of this initiative, however, long-term may need to make budgetary considerations.	<ul> <li>Winter/Spring 2024</li> <li>University Technology Advisory Committee reviews initiative request</li> <li>Discussion and review of current data analysis and reporting processes</li> <li>Fall 2024</li> <li>Recommendations for next steps</li> </ul>
Ensure all university forms are electronic	2023-2026	University Computing Solutions, Marketing and Communication, All University Offices/Departments/ Units/etc.	No funding required for the initial step of this initiative, however, long-term may need to make budgetary considerations.	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Develop implementation plan for converting forms to electronic versions</li> <li>2024-2025</li> <li>Plan implemented</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> <li>All university forms are electronically available for intended users</li> </ul>

Establish credit/debit card access for all university services	2023-2026	Vice President for Finance and Administration, University Computing Solutions, Business Services	No funding required for the initial step of this initiative, however, funding requests anticipated.	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Research needs and requirements for all university services to be available to be paid for by credit card</li> <li>2024-2025</li> <li>Develop plan for credit card access</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> <li>All university services are able to be purchased utilizing a credit card</li> </ul>
		Long-tern	n	
Technology Infrastructure is brought to industry standards and best practices	Ongoing		Additional funding request anticipated as work through needs assessment to bring university to industry standards and best practices.	

#### **Recruitment & Retention of Students**

- Applicable Diversity Action Plan Goals: Climate, Recruitment & Retention of Employees, Recruitment & Retention of Students, Curriculum & Pedagogy
- Applicable Equity Assessment Themes: Diversity & Inclusion, Communication & Technology, Accountability, Physical Environment & Safety, Community, Leadership
- Applicable Strategic Plan Values: Diversity & Respect, Community, Accessibility

Initiative	Timeline/Due Date	Responsible	Is Funding Needed	Outcomes/Deliverables
	Timeline, Due Duce	Short-Ter		
Provide more opportunities for senior leadership to engage with students	2023-2024	Senior Leadership	President's office to support light refreshments	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Host one informal fireside chat per term</li> </ul>
WOU will join the group of 1000+ colleges/ universities using the Common Application "Common App is a non-profit membership organization representing more than 1,000 diverse institutions of	2023-2024	Admissions, Student Affairs, University Computing Solutions	<ul> <li>\$5,000 - \$10,000 (initial joining fee), \$2,500 (annual fee) – initial \$10,000 paid through sustainability funds</li> <li>Details on funding: Implementation fee – one-time cost based on platform (3 levels)</li> <li>Essential Platform (\$5,000)</li> <li>Standard Platform (\$7,000)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>December 2023</li> <li>Signed letter of intent</li> <li>Spring 2024</li> <li>Implementation begins; application available for use for Fall 2024 applications</li> <li>Fall 2024</li> <li>Common application online and ready for new students to apply</li> </ul>

higher education. We connect applicants and those who support them to a wide array of public and private colleges and universities across all 50 U.S. states, and 20 countries." The investment will allow us to join all other Oregon Public Universities using this application. Further, the platform introduces another tool to improve enrollment and operational efficiency.	2022.2024	Sonior Loadorship	<ul> <li>Custom Platform (\$10,000)</li> <li>Annual Membership Fee = \$2,500</li> <li>Payment transaction fee, if applicable (only for members charging an application fee) - \$2.00 per online application fee payment processed</li> <li>Not charged when a fee waiver is used</li> </ul>	Winter/Spring 2024
Update 2/3 tuition hold to a set dollar amount	2023-2024	Senior Leadership, Registrar, University Computing Solutions, Student Success and Advising, Additional University Partners	No	<ul> <li>Winter/Spring 2024</li> <li>Determine financial hold threshold for the balance students can carry and still register.</li> <li>Fall 2024</li> </ul>

Establish student	2023-2024	Student Affairs,	No	<ul> <li>Updated threshold communicated</li> <li>Updated threshold implemented</li> <li>2023-2024</li> </ul>
resource modules (e.g., student orientation, online course tutorial, registration) for students on Canvas		Academic Affairs		<ul> <li>Modules developed</li> <li>Fall 2024</li> <li>Modules ready for use</li> </ul>
Create a virtual option for student orientation for remote/online students, commuter students, and transfer students	2023-2024	Student Affairs, New Student & Family Programs, Academic Affairs, Academic Innovation, University Computing Solutions	No	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Review what was facilitated during the pandemic</li> <li>Determine use and need for virtual options to be updated</li> <li>If need established: <ul> <li>Update materials</li> <li>Develop implementation plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>Fall 2024 <ul> <li>Ready for use</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Mid-Tern		
Review, evaluate, and revise advising systems and structures	2023-2025	Student Success and Advising, Academic Affairs Consulting with Student Affairs,	No funding required for the initial step of this initiative, however, funding requests anticipated.	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Review completed and report generated</li> <li>Fall 2024</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>Review of advising model including assessment of LEAD Advising pilot so far</li> <li>Assess effectiveness and places we are creating inadvertent inequities</li> </ul>		Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar		<ul> <li>Recommendations brought forward to Academic Affairs Council for further consideration</li> </ul>
Review and revise the Code of Student Responsibility and disciplinary procedures to shift to a restorative justice framework	2023-2025	Student Conduct, Student Affairs, Housing	2023-2024 – no funding requests anticipated 2024-2025 – additional funding request anticipated to build capacity and skills to utilize a restorative justice framework <i>Beyond 2025, unknown</i> <i>until plan developed</i>	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Finish current review and publication of the Code of Student Responsibility</li> <li>Update Student Conduct website</li> <li>Plan developed for capacity building and implementation of restorative justice framework</li> <li>2024-2025</li> <li>Capacity building and training for utilization of restorative justice framework</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> </ul>

				<ul> <li>Implementation/utiliza- tion</li> </ul>
Establish clear support systems for first-generation students	2023-2026	Student Success and Advising, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Student Affairs, Marketing and Communication, and University Partners	2023-2024 – no funding requests anticipated, funds reallocated from existing Student Success and Advising for position 2024-2026 – additional funding request may occur as further developed	tion Fall 2023 Reallocate resources to recruit and hire a First- Generation Advisor/Coordinator Winter 2024 First-Generation Advisor/Coordinator begins working at WOU 2024-2025 Establish supporting first-generation college students as the 2024- 2025 cultural competence focus for the university November 2024 First-generation student day, celebration expanded beyond TRiO Programs Winter 2025 First-generation student center opened
		Long-tern		
Evaluate the	2023-2024/Update	University Technology	No request during research	Fall 2024
MyWOU app and	after Fall 2024	Advisory Committee,	phase, however, if	<ul> <li>Recommendation for</li> </ul>
recommend the		University Computing	continuation of app usage	pursuing a mobile
best path forward		Solutions, Student	or expansion of app usage	

for an app that	Affairs, Strategic	is recommendation,	application utilization
supports students	Enrollment Working	additional funding request	for WOU
throughout their	Group, Academic	anticipated	
time at WOU,	Affairs, Associated		Recommendation based in
including	Students of Western		data from university
Admissions	Oregon University		community, considering:
through			Peer institutions
Graduation			utilization of apps
<ul> <li>Themes of</li> </ul>			<ul> <li>What is the potential</li> </ul>
access and			functionality of an app?
community			• What do we need in an
throughout			app?
the student			• What do we want in an
experience			app?
			<ul> <li>Is an app a vehicle to</li> </ul>
			create community,
			support student needs,
			aid in access to and flow
			of information, etc.?
			Recommended ways to
			collect student perspective:
			• Tabling in the WUC
			Quick survey
			• Listening type sessions
			for open discussion from
			students

#### **Recruitment & Retention of Employees**

- Applicable Diversity Action Plan Goals: Climate, Recruitment & Retention of Employees, Recruitment & Retention of Students
- Applicable Equity Assessment Themes: Diversity & Inclusion, Communication & Technology, Accountability, Physical Environment & Safety, Community, Leadership
- Applicable Strategic Plan Values: Diversity & Respect, Community, Accessibility

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Initiative	Timeline/Due Date	Responsible	Is Funding Needed	Outcomes/Deliverables
		Short-Terr	n	
Reimagine	2023-2024	Human Resources and	No	2023-2024
onboarding as a		University Partners		Human Resources led
six-month to one				working group formed
year process, to				to discussion and
include				reimagine onboarding
<ul> <li>Development</li> </ul>				process for all WOU
of best				employees
practices and				Fall 2024
guidelines to				<ul> <li>Best practices and</li> </ul>
assist with				guidelines available
onboarding				ahead of Fall 2024
<ul> <li>Updated</li> </ul>				<ul> <li>Checklists including</li> </ul>
checklists for				compliance training
supervisor and				links available
employee				
Evaluate new	2023-2024	Human Resources and	No	2023-2024
employee		University Partners		Review and assessment
orientation and				of what is going well
restructure as				and where are areas for
needed				improvement
				Fall 2024
				Updated NEO training

Streamline search	2023-2024	Human Resources,	No	2023-2024
committee process,		Diversity, Equity and		<ul> <li>Review and update</li> </ul>
to include		Inclusion, Search		search committee
Consistent		Advocacy Learning		member training
basic		Community		<ul> <li>Review search advocacy</li> </ul>
standards for				resources and develop
search				WOU search advocacy
committees				training
Revise search				Fall 2024
committee				• Updated search
training				committee member
Guiding				training available
documents				• WOU search advocacy
(rubrics,				training available
question				Best practices/basic
repository,				standards available
schedules,				• Shared templates of
etc.)				guiding documents
				available (rubrics,
				question repository,
				schedules, etc.)
Improve	2023-2024	Human Resources,	Yes, additional funding	2023-2024
professional		Diversity, Equity and	request anticipated	Group of representative
development		Inclusion, University		folks establishes
opportunities for		Computing Solutions,		expectations
all employees		General Counsel,		Fall 2024
Clarify		Board of Trustees		Centralized home for
expectations		Secretary, Academic		asynchronous
around		Affairs		compliance training
compliance				made consistently
training (e.g.,				available at the start of

Title IX, FERPA,		the fall term each year
HB 2864, etc.)		and as new employees
<ul> <li>Roll out</li> </ul>		are hired
compliance		<ul> <li>Policy regarding</li> </ul>
trainings with		professional
clear		development
communica-		established
tion about		<ul> <li>Financial support and</li> </ul>
expectations		system developed to
and		support staff
ramifications		professional
<ul> <li>Develop policy</li> </ul>		development
for hours used		development
to participate		
in professional		
development		
(e.g., all staff		
have four		
hours of time		
they are		
expected to		
•		
participate in		
professional development		
each academic		
year) ▶ Review		
support of		
faculty		
professional		
development		



and consider				
how can				
model similar				
for staff				
Update the university harassment and discrimination policy	2023-2024	Human Resources, General Counsel, Title IX, Board of Trustees Secretary	No	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Revise harassment and discrimination policy         <ul> <li>Drafted and reviewed</li> <li>Public Comment</li> <li>Approval</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
				<ul> <li>Implementation plan</li> <li>2024-2025</li> </ul>
				<ul> <li>Policy available and</li> </ul>
				<ul> <li>Policy available and ready to use</li> </ul>
		 Mid-Term		
Transition the	2023-2025	Center of Teaching	Yes, \$194,500 to be paid	2023-2024
Center for Academic Innovation to the Center of Teaching and Learning, expand the existing initiatives and resources • Objective 1: Quality rubrics are used to inform the		and Learning (formerly Academic Innovation), Academic Affairs, University Partners	through sustainability funds. Additional financial needs to be determined.	<ul> <li>Academic Innovation transitioned to the Center of Teaching and Learning</li> <li>2024-2025</li> <li>Objectives met</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>design of high quality and inclusive online and hybrid courses</li> <li>Objective 2: Academic Affairs has an infrastructure to ensure courses are high quality and inclusive</li> <li>Objective 3: Faculty are equipped with learning opportunities and tools to engage in the work of diversifying and</li> </ul>				
and decolonizing curriculum				
Transition the	2023-2025	Center of Teaching	Yes, \$194,500 to be paid	2023-2024
Center for		and Learning	through sustainability	<ul> <li>Academic Innovation</li> </ul>
Academic		(formerly Academic	funds. Additional financial	transitioned to the
Innovation to the		Innovation), Academic	needs to be determined.	Center of Teaching and
Center of Teaching		Affairs, University		Learning
and Learning,		Partners		2024-2025

expand the existing		Objectives met
initiatives and		2
resources		
Objective 1:		
Quality rubrics		
are used to		
inform the		
design of high		
quality and		
inclusive online		
and hybrid		
courses		
Objective 2:		
Academic		
Affairs has an		
infrastructure		
to ensure		
courses are		
high quality		
and inclusive		
Objective 3:		
Faculty are		
equipped with		
learning		
opportunities		
and tools to		
engage in the		
work of		
diversifying		
and		



decolonizing				
curriculum				
Evaluate and update performance management tools that include training, workshops, and resources • Include DEI/Cultural competence in performance evaluations with a self- reflection component • Work with shared governance to determine tiers and self- reflection reflection commendati ons	2023-2025	Human Resources, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Shared Governance	No	<ul> <li>2023-2025</li> <li>Tools updated</li> <li>Implementation plan developed</li> <li>Resources available</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> <li>Implementation begins</li> </ul>
Develop and	2024-2025	Human Resources,	No	Spring 2025
implement		University Diversity		Professional
supervisor specific		and Inclusion Advisory		development available
professional		Committee, Feedback		to professional
development		from Shared		employees

program for supervisors, which is then followed up with a consistently available learning community		Governance on topic areas/themes		
Develop/redevelop and pilot mentorship programs (with consistency in mind, with specific and measurable outcomes)	2023-2026	Academic Affairs, Deans, Academic Innovation (New Faculty Orientation), University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (Jaclyn Caires-Hurley volunteered to help with effort)	Not in first year, will evaluate financial need when determining scalability and building pilot	<ul> <li>2023-2024</li> <li>Determine what programs currently exist</li> <li>Determine what data is available to assess effectiveness and what/if any gaps exist in current programs</li> <li>2024-2025</li> <li>Assess current programs and scalability</li> <li>Determine pilot group(s) for additional programs (consider interdisciplinary mentor/mentee relationships)</li> <li>2025-2026</li> <li>Continue current programs</li> <li>Pilot new programs</li> </ul>
		Long-tern	<u>ו</u> ר	
Engage in a Classification and	2023-2025/Ongoing	Human Resources and University Partners	Yes, consultant (\$123,000), to be paid through sustainability funds.	<ul><li>2023-2025</li><li>Conduct a salary study</li></ul>

Compensation Project			Additional funding request anticipated; to be determined following studies and recommendations.	<ul> <li>Conduct a classification study</li> <li>Conduct a pay equity study</li> <li>Report findings and recommendations</li> </ul>
Conduct assessment of promotion and tenure process with an equity lens	2023-2025/Update after Fall 2025	Academic Affairs	No	<ul> <li>2023-2025</li> <li>Review of process</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> <li>Provide specific recommendations for the Provost and Union based on the results of the assessment</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Development and promotion of junior faculty retention programs</li> <li>Consistency within divisions/ departments</li> <li>Further clarity of expectations that are easy to find</li> <li>Partnerships/ mentorships with/for senior faculty support</li> </ul>	2023-2025	Academic Affairs	No funding required for the initial step of this initiative, however, long-term may need to make budgetary considerations.	<ul> <li>2023-2025</li> <li>Determine what is available and review current programs</li> <li>Unit reviews of historical tenure trends (e.g., successful tenured lines, time to apply and receive Full Professor rank)</li> <li>Fall 2025</li> <li>Consistent procedural guidelines and expectations shared with all units</li> <li>Centralized and consistent training and</li> </ul>

		mentoring system for
		PRC's and tenure track
		faculty