

## **Faculty Senate Meeting 10/9/12**

**I. Call to order** 3:30 pm

**II. Roll Call** by circulated sign-in sheet; divisions asked to make updates/changes

**III. Correction to Minutes from 5/22/2012**

**Correction:** Kristin Latham present

**Action:** Minutes approved

**IV. President's Reports**

**Keller Coker, Faculty Senate** – Second term serving as faculty senate president, pleased to serve. Thank you for senator services – this commitment meets twice as often as most committees. View of president's job is to facilitate and make sure all voices are heard and good ideas circulated. Plans to keep flow of meetings, however no one should feel rushed – we are a faculty full of smart folks.

**Mark Weiss, Western Oregon University** – Welcome back.

Enrollment numbers currently are 6077, up 23 from this time last year. Plan for additional students to add in the next few weeks. Full time equivalent is about 5200 students, down 15 from last year. Our revenue base is as planned.

Legislative Committee has drafted a bill for separate governing bodies for PSU and UO. Unclear as to the intention of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education in response to drafted bill. HECC (Higher Education Coordination Committee) has formed as an offshoot of the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB). Frustration expressed by governor of Oregon at underfunding of Oregon education. An investment subcommittee has formed, under governance of OEIB.

At recent Board of Higher Ed meeting: 1) Health and Welfare Committee formed. Satisfied with PEBB insurance. However, some issues for out of state/out of country members. Also some issues for rural members. Results of the last two years in PEBB – the 7 OUS institutions subsidize a large portion of PEBB funding – concern that our students (and faculty) are paying a part of this subsidy. 2) Optional Retirement Planning committee formed. WOU has participation on this committee. Will make recommendations and plans for new/future hires.

Q: In regards to PSU and UO leaving OUS system - is this different from before? Is the Chancellor still in charge? Is there language about this in the draft bill?

A: Chancellor would not oversee PSU and UO, if they leave system, however the bill is vague about this. Each would have separate governing boards from the other five OUS institutions.

Q: How does our enrollment compare to other OUS institutions?

A: All schools are keeping info close to the vest, comment that numbers "as planned". Some schools, like OSU, UO, OIT are up compared to last year. Some, like PSU, are down in numbers. Fewer Oregonians are enrolled – this is a trend at all 7 schools.

Q: What is the impetus for the new retirement plan?

A: Currently, there is Tier I, Tier II, OPSRP, then optional retirement (ORP). The retirement rate is linked to Tier I, Tier II etc – doesn't make sense for this to be linked. Committee seeks to be comparable to plans across the country.

Follow-up Q: Will employees pick up more of our own retirement?

A: This is independent of that.

Q: Are you in favor of the separation of PSU and UO from the OUS system?

A: No, however there is a lot more discussion coming. It is of concern if PSU and UO are able to procure separate funding – All 7 schools should be programmatically managed and have budget issues banded together.

### **Kent Neely, Provosts' Council –**

1. OEIB hosting 7 meetings around the state – for Oregon, meeting is in Salem, Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, McKay High School Auditorium. Folks may just show up, but if you would like to speak, need to register. More info on the OEIB website.

2. Hilda Rosselli has taken a leave of absence to be the deputy director within OEIB.

3. Provost's Council and Board – Secretary of State Division of Audits examined last year whether faculty with full time employment have appropriate workloads. This is informed by workload terms established by collective bargaining and this will be adhered to. Questions are currently being addressed. Currently underway is an audit of tuition cost drivers. WOU is 25% down in funding we receive from the state, plus cost of living is increasing. This is similar to other states.

WOU currently recruits in CA – in part because there are many students who cannot get into CA schools. If we didn't recruit these students, we would have to make reductions. Audits are driven by the increasing number of students who can't afford college and increases in student debt. Oregon currently ranks 47<sup>th</sup> for state funding support of education (out of 50 states).

4. Cost of higher education is increasing and the time to completing a degree is increasing.

Currently, council is examining Credit for Prior Learning (CPL). A task force has been established by chancellor composed of faculty from all 7 OUS schools to address CPL idea. Currently we do provide some CPL – for example military training credits. The interest is to increase of the efficiency of education in order to achieve 40:40:20.

5. Academic Affairs discussing summer session – would like to reorganize – currently balancing classes, camps for sports and music, conferences, and relations to Monmouth/Independence communities. During summer session, course offerings are predictable – is it possible to take summer courses in addition to year courses and for students to finish degrees in three years? This is one idea being looked at. Would like to address student market in new ways.

Q: In the continuing state audits, what is the endpoint?

A: Audits result in either findings and/or recommendations. Last year there were no findings. For recommendations, this may include looking at how to offer classes most effectively; also better training of division/department chairs – this did occur during past summer training session. Currently audit in investigative phase – a draft report will be submitted to chancellor's office, expected. Later, the draft will be shared with legislature. Timeline is that audits will be completed this year.

Q: Is there a connection between audits and performance compacts with OEIB?

A: OEIB achievement compacts are independent of state's office. Otherwise, no information.

**V. Old Business** none.

**VI. New Business**

*A. ARC: Cultural Diversity Designation Report and Recommendations (Robert Monge)*

- this committee met to review the LACC 'D' designation for diversity courses, and are submitting documents to Faculty Senate for review. 1) Guidelines for D designation have been redone and updated, including a new submission form. These are based on comparator institutions and the previously revised Q designation. The new guidelines/form includes a place to attach a syllabus, graduation requirement, definition, goals/learning outcomes, and guidelines for how to apply the D designation to a course.

Q: Where are revisions found?

A: Current D designation on curriculum committee webpage.

Q: Are different abilities included? For example, physical diversity?

A: Focused on terms for cultural diversity.

Q: It seems the new definition for D designation is inconsistent with the campus diversity definition?

A: The committee is open for feedback.

Q: Why isn't the BA degree included in the new description?

A: Requirement met through modern language.

Q: will the updated document be added to the Curriculum committee website?

A: We will summarize changes at the next faculty senate meeting

Q: Can the wording be changed to 'sample syllabus'?

A: yes

*B. Committee on Course Evaluation (Cat McGrew) – report postponed.*

**VII. Announcements**

New member introductions

Smith Fine Arts Series upcoming events.

**IX. Meeting Adjourned** 4:20 pm.