



**Board of Trustees  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, March 15, 2018  
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (or until business concludes)  
DeBoer Room, Hannon Library**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum**

In Chair Teresa Sayre's planned absence, Trustee Steve Vincent called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

The following members were present: Les AuCoin, Shanztyn Nihipali, Daniel Santos, Joanna Steinman and Steve Vincent. Trustees Teresa Sayre and Shea Washington were absent. Trustees Bill Thorndike and Linda Schott (ex officio) also attended the meeting.

Other meeting guests included: Dr. Susan Walsh, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs; Greg Perkinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration; Jason Catz, General Counsel; Dr. Matt Stillman, Registrar; Leo McCaffrey, ASSOU; Jennifer Fountain, Student Life; Danielle Mancuso, Student Life; Kelly Moutsatson, Director of Admissions; Chris Stanek, Director of Institutional Research; Ryan Schnobrich, Internal Auditor; Joe Mosley, Director of Community and Media Relations; Devon Backstrom, ASSOU; John Stevenson, User Support Manager; Sabrina Prud'homme, Board Secretary; and Kathy Park, Executive Assistant.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Provost's Report**

Dr. Susan Walsh said Kelly Moutsatson connected with an SOU alumnus in American Samoa and determined that students there were interested in attending SOU. Ms. Moutsatson planned a recruiting event in American Samoa, which was very successful.

The online MBA program will start April 1. Dr. Walsh said SOU already has 26 admitted students and half of those have registered.

Dr. Matt Stillman said he is working with the Department of Education to qualify standalone certificate programs for federal financial aid. He is also pursuing certificates, badges, and micro-credentialing for non-degree seeking populations.

Dr. Walsh said the Enrollment Management Council continues its work toward an enrollment plan.

Dr. Walsh said AASCU representatives would be at SOU on May 14 and George Mehaffy, who has been in higher education and with AASCU for many years, will give a presentation on campus on issues facing higher education. She said it would be good for faculty and others to hear him, an outside voice, speak about things that SOU is also pursuing. She said she is encouraged by national conversations and that SOU is out in front of a lot of things and keeping up with issues.

President Schott said she hopes to have Virgel Hammonds, Chief Learning Officer for KnowledgeWorks who has done much to advance proficiency-based education, come to SOU to talk with faculty about how things are changing in K-12 and what SOU needs to be thinking about.

### **Consent Agenda**

Trustee Santos moved to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2018 meeting as presented. Trustee Steinman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Information and Discussion Items**

#### 2018-19 Student Incidental Fee Recommendation and Overview of Student Fee Process

Leo McCaffrey provided an overview of the student fee process, discussing the objectives for students and the purposes, historical background and recent developments of the fees, as included in the meeting materials. Mr. McCaffrey stressed the importance of viewpoint neutrality and the student control of the fees.

Describing ASSOU's organization, Mr. McCaffrey said the Student Fee Committee is comprised of four subcommittees: Athletics Advisory, Student Union Advisory, Educational Activities Advisory and Inter-Club Council Allocation Committees. He then detailed the timeline for the student fee approval process.

Mr. McCaffrey reviewed ASSOU's incidental and recreation center fee recommendation, as detailed in the meeting materials.

Trustee Nihipali said he was able to observe the amount of critique that goes into the fund requests. He applauded the students who attended the meetings as they are critical to the process and for ensuring the \$4 million in fees is not given away loosely. Students actively participate in the process and feel like they have a voice in the discussion. The process also requires clubs to keep track of metrics on outreach to students and actual participation.

Trustees thanked Mr. McCaffrey for his work and dedication.

#### 2018-19 Tuition and Mandatory Fees Recommendation

President Schott introduced this agenda item, saying a great deal of work has been put into this recommendation, especially by Mark Denney.

Mr. Denney said the process started by looking at housing, meal rates, total cost of attendance and costs at other schools. The Tuition Advisory Council (TAC) has met weekly since the start of winter term. The TAC set up a Google site and posted every

document and spreadsheet so everyone could see them. This year, the TAC kept minutes of its meetings, which were approved by the members each week and posted.

Mr. Denney said the total cost of attendance includes tuition, mandatory fees (including the student incidental, student recreation center, student health and building fees), housing and meals. He then compared tuition rates at comparator schools in Oregon and California and enrollment trends at Oregon universities. Mr. Denney said an enrollment growth is projected at SOU for next year. He described the tuition and fee setting process, including the composition of the TAC, the Student Fee Committee and the Student Recreation Center Advisory Council.

Mr. Denney said SOU's cost drivers are labor and benefits, retirement and health care, more so than pay. The levers are being able to continue to manage costs, stability of state funding, and tuition revenue. SOU's spending per full time equivalent remains the lowest all seven Oregon public universities. Mr. Denney reviewed state funding for the universities. Regarding the enrollment projections for SOU, he said the online MBA cohort assumptions have been adjusted based on the historical experiences of Academic Partnerships and the applicant numbers seen thus far.

President Schott said Eastern Oregon University has many online programs and currently is considering partnering with an organization like Academic Partnerships but some faculty are resistant. She praised Dr. Walsh for her early engagement with SOU's faculty and thanked the board for its willingness to try something new.

Looking at the pro forma, Mr. Denney explained the tuition recommendation preserves a fund balance over 11 percent for the current biennium but, looking at the out-years, SOU has more to do especially in the areas of recruitment, retention and cost containment.

Discussion ensued on the proposed rates for tuition and mandatory fees, the differential rate for American Samoa, and the total cost of attendance, as detailed in the meeting materials. The president's proposed tuition rate increases include 4.22 percent for resident undergraduates and Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) students; 3.95 percent for nonresident undergraduates; 2.14 percent for resident graduate students; and 2.09 percent for nonresident graduate students. The proposed differential rate for students from American Samoa is \$258, the same rate as for WUE students.

Regarding mandatory fees, Mr. Denney said the cost drivers for the student incidental fee are the same as for the university –primarily labor, retirement and benefits—which is causing a comparable increase in the fee. There is no increase to the student recreation or building fees. The student health fee would increase 2.19 percent and is the lowest in the state.

#### House Bill 2998 Update

Chris Stanek said HB 2998 relates to the transfer of credits from community colleges to universities. The workgroup has had several meetings and specific interest groups continue to meet. They are still deciding which subject area will be piloted.

Mr. Stanek described a possible scenario of an RCC student transferring to SOU after completing the foundational curriculum and discussed the credits that would articulate to SOU's University Studies curriculum. Discussion ensued on various situations that would and would not fall under the requirements of this bill.

#### House Bill 4053 Update

In Jeanne Stallman's absence, Dr. Walsh provided the update, saying the HECC has been charged with developing statewide standards for public post-secondary institutions to make information related to accelerated college credit programs readily available on each school's website. HB 4053 requires the Department of Education and the HECC to jointly prepare an annual report on these programs through 2029.

#### Future Meetings

Trustee Vincent said the next meeting of the committee will be on June 21.

#### **Adjournment**

Trustee Vincent adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Date: June 21, 2018

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sabrina Prud'homme".

Sabrina Prud'homme  
University Board Secretary