

Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2016 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. (or until business concludes) DeBoer Room, Hannon Library

MINUTES

Call to Order and Preliminary Business

Chair Sayre called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

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

Other meeting guests included: Dr. Susan Walsh, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs; Craig Morris, Vice President for Finance and Administration; Dr. Jody Waters, Associate Provost; Marjorie Trueblood-Gamble, Director of Diversity and Inclusion; Angela Fleischer, Assistant Director of Student Support and Intervention for Confidential Advising; Ryan Schnobrich, Internal Auditor; Dr. Matt Stillman, University Registrar and Co-Executive Director of Student Enrollment; Kelly Moutsatson, Director of Admissions and Co-Executive Director of Student Enrollment; Joe Mosley, Director of Community and Media Relations; Mary Ann Neely, SOU; Sydney Lund, SOU, ECOS; Craig Switzler, SOU; John Stevenson, User Support Manager; Don Hill, Classroom and Media Services Manager; Olena Black, League of Women Voters; Sabrina Prud'homme, Board Secretary; and Kathy Park, Executive Assistant.

Chair Sayre welcomed Trustee Daniel Santos, the board's newest trustee. Trustee Santos introduced himself and discussed his background. He also expressed that as an SOU alumnus, he was honored to be asked to be on the board and this committee. Chair Sayre also welcomed alumnus, Joe Mosely, SOU's new Director of Community and Media Relations.

Trustee Steinman moved to approve the September 15, 2016 meeting minutes as drafted. Trustee Shih seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Sydney Lund, a senior at SOU, ASSOU Sustainability Director and Student Director of

Ecology and the Sustainability Resource Center, provided comments on the importance of sustainability at SOU. She asked that SOU consider sending more students to conferences and increasing funding for sustainability programs. She believes sustainability serves as an effective recruiting tool and contributes to retention.

Vice President Morris commended Sydney and SOU's students, citing their sustainability presentations and awards SOU has received at national sustainability conferences.

Provost's Report

Dr. Susan Walsh also welcomed Trustee Santos and said it had been a pleasure getting to know him over the last few years.

Dr. Walsh said community colleges are interested in offering applied baccalaureates in business and nursing. Since SOU has an applied baccalaureate degree in business, the university is particularly interested in this development.

The Provosts' Council has a group currently studying the impact of the Oregon Promise on universities and will later extend the focus to community colleges and other groups. There is a \$32 million budget request for next year, up from \$10 million last year. The provosts are trying to make a persuasive argument that the Promise money could follow students at universities not just community colleges.

Dr. Walsh informed the committee that SOU has submitted its HECC Evaluation Framework Report, thanks to Chris Stanek and other contributors. She expects there will be some back and forth until HECC submits its final report to the legislature in January. When the three large institutions submitted their reports for the first time last year, there was no feedback at all from the HECC, so it is unclear what the universities should expect regarding the submission.

Regarding general enrollment, Dr. Matt Stillman said SOU is down -2.5 percent in FTE and -2 percent in headcount. He noted that the resident population is decreasing while the nonresident population is increasing. He said SOU's numbers may look negative compared with fall 2015, which was a high water mark, but it is not so negative in the longer historical picture. Additionally, at 4,282 headcount, SOU is still above retrenchment metrics on several measures, including FTE, headcount, admissions applications, number of admits and new student numbers.

Regarding admissions, Kelly Moutsatson said the end of the fourth week is nearing. The current period is an interesting interval: "tucking-in" 2016 while simultaneously recruiting for 2017. Because of the decline in resident freshmen, the admissions office is exploring what can be done to increase the numbers in that population. Ms. Moutsatson mentioned some of the new and enhanced ways SOU is aggressively pursuing local students: SOU2You events in Bend; hosting counselor conferences; having Andrew Clum, an admissions counselor, visit a different high school every day; and continuing the Raider on the Spot program. She added that SOU Preview events will start again soon, getting SOU in front of students and their parents. Admissions also is working with marketing to create the message that SOU is the Rogue Valley's university, including ads, social media ties and other intentional communications.

Ms. Moutsatson added that College Board representatives are at SOU to discuss changes in SAT scores, grants, scholarships and financial aid, ensuring SOU will have updated information for its application and financial aid workshops.

Trustee Santos asked about the profile of the two most recent freshmen classes and about volunteering to help with recruitment. Dr. Stillman said the profiles are almost identical. Regarding recruitment assistance, trustees always are invited to SOU Preview events and ROARs; when big groups are on campus, it is helpful if trustees attend receptions and if they tell their stories to prospective students.

Curriculum Update

Dr. Walsh provided an update on three curriculum proposals, starting with the master's degree in outdoor adventure leadership, which is still in development. Dr. Walsh reminded committee members of the robust process each new major or program must go through to be approved. In addition to the process undergraduate degree proposals follow, the new graduate program proposal will be reviewed by an external review committee comprised of three Ph.D-holding faculty from Oregon, Arizona and California. This visit is scheduled for November.

Also proposed is a bachelor's degree in health sciences for the fall of 2017. SOU has a community advisory committee for the planned degree, including people in health sciences careers. Currently, SOU is at the curriculum development stage, having done research and talked to industry folks. The program committee still has to iron out the last pieces of the curriculum proposal, talk about resources and a few more items.

Dr. Walsh then mentioned the proposed certificate in wine business, for which the curriculum already is in place. Responding to Trustee Vincent, Dr. Walsh said it takes a full academic year to build a new certificate program and get it to state approval. She is prepared to get it into the 2017-18 catalog. Trustees Santos and Shih, among others, expressed support for this certificate because of Greg Jones' international reputation, new faculty in hospitality and tourism, local connections and community offerings.

Accreditation Site Visit

Dr. Jody Waters provided an update on the accreditation site visit. The nine-member NWCCU accreditation team will begin its SOU visit with a breakfast on Monday, October 24. There will be three days of meetings with various constituent groups.

Trustees have been invited to participate in various meetings. Dr. Waters was pleased with the cooperative, accommodating attitude of the entire campus and said it bodes well for a successful visit.

Title IX Presentation and Discussion

Chair Sayre introduced the topic, noting that she was present for the recent roundtable discussion with Senator Ron Wyden, who commended the program. At that meeting, Carrie Hull of the Ashland Police Department said the takeaway was that we need not try to morph the victim to conform to the institution; instead, the institution should morph itself to accommodate the victim. Chair Sayre noted that this quality is what is so unique about SOU's Title IX programming, which she praised.

Marjorie Trueblood-Gamble discussed the Title IX requirements, reports and process at SOU. She is very excited about these issues and said SOU is doing an outstanding job. She recognized the efforts of Angela Fleischer, Assistant Director of Student Support and Intervention for Confidential Advising, as well as all of her colleagues on campus, giving them much credit for the big work and heavy lifting required in this area.

Ms. Trueblood-Gamble asked two questions: Has there ever been a time in your life where you felt excluded? Has there been a time when something happened to you and you were afraid to share it? She said these two questions are fundamental to how SOU approaches Title IX, recognizing that victims are afraid to share because they do not think they will be believed. She added that we have to reduce these barriers for the care of victims as well as for the safety of the community.

Ms. Trueblood-Gamble explained the federal Office of Civil Rights enforces civil rights laws especially related to federal programming. She noted that discrimination, as outlined in Title IX legislation, is based on sex/gender. Ms. Trueblood-Gamble discussed the history of Title IX, highlighting various federal laws and "Dear Colleague" letters. She also explained that Title IX expectations include an investigation that is thorough, impartial and reliable; a prompt, effective, equitable process; and remedies that end discrimination and prevent recurrence.

SOU applies Title IX through Campus Choice, a nationally renowned program modeled after the Ashland Police Department's "You Have Options" program. Campus Choice is survivor-centered, trauma-informed and offender-focused. In 2015-2016, there were 150 Campus Choice reports filed in the calendar year; 57 percent of those were unconfirmed, unfounded or not actionable. Ms. Trueblood-Gamble said the number of Title IX reports has greatly increased over the last few academic years. In AY 2012, there were eight reports. In AYs 2013, 2014 and 2015, the number of reports increased to 26, 56 and 97, respectively. Rather than being concerned about these increases, Ms. Trueblood-Gamble said they indicate the program is working, as research says that SOU should be receiving more reports than it does; that number is around 200 per year.

Responding to a question from Trustee Santos regarding cases that may progress through the criminal and litigation process, Ms. Trueblood-Gamble remarked that SOU's goal is to limit the number of contacts a victim must encounter in the process. SOU takes its cues from the victims: if they wish to go through the SOU process and not the criminal process with police, SOU honors that. However, if they wish to go through the criminal process and not SOU's, the university also honors that preference.

Responding to Trustee Vincent's inquiry about annual training requirements for employees on issues related to Title IX, Ms. Trueblood-Gamble said that, under the Campus SaVE Act, SOU is supposed to extend training around these issues. This year, an online training module was rolled-out to students and an employee-based training module will be rolled out in November. SOU also does a road show to all academic departments to provide training. Ms. Trueblood-Gamble appreciates Provost Walsh's commitment to providing information and training on Title IX and FERPA across the academic divisions.

Responding to Trustee Shih's inquiry, Ms. Trueblood-Gamble said there is an introduction and panel discussion on these issues during parent and student orientations. Female-identified students may be apprehensive, so discussions include an outside speaker to discuss consent and bystander intervention. The SOU Women's Resource Center and the health promotions specialist also provide sexual assault and alcohol abuse prevention information. In rare situations of emergency crime notices, SOU also displays information on how to be safe and connect to resources, via email.

Trustee Steinman noted that SOU has appeared on "most dangerous" campus lists. She asked if there is a way to respond to people who do not understand that increases in the number of reports is actually a positive result. Ms. Trueblood-Gamble believed those are antiquated viewpoints and noted that SOU did not respond a couple of years ago. However, in the region, people "get it" and see SOU is doing a good job on the campus. Trustee Santos confirmed this and added that in the Willamette Valley, he was aware of the program and complimented its success and good inner-workings.

Responding to Trustee Thorndike's inquiry about opportunities to coordinate with SOU's Internal Auditor, Ms. Trueblood-Gamble said there is always room for improvement and more to do to create additional resources for those involved. Her vision is to have a site to display SOU's great work, one that would be friendlier to this visual generation so they can see the resources.

Regarding the prevention aspect, President Schott asked what it would look like five years from now if SOU is really successful. Ms. Fleischer responded that qualitatively or anecdotally, SOU will have developed better measures about what people know about prevention and also would develop widespread education not limited to the experiences of victims and perpetrators but also including impact to the community and good citizenship.

President Schott expressed how proud she is to be the president of the institution doing this work. She praised the work of all those involved in these processes and said the campus should be grateful and proud. Ms. Trueblood-Gamble praised her team and colleagues involved in the process.

Future Meetings

Chair Sayre mentioned the meetings scheduled for November and December. She also solicited future agenda items from committee members.

Adjourn

Chair Sayre adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

Date: January 19, 2017

Respectfully submitted by,

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Sabrina Prud'homme University Board Secretary