

**Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 18, 2018**

MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum

Committee Members:

Daniel Santos	Absent	Barry Thalden	Present
Jonathon Bullock	Present	Steve Vincent	Present
Paul Nicholson	Absent	janelle wilson	Absent
Deborah Rosenberg	Present		

In Chair Daniel Santos' planned absence, Trustee Deborah Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 12:12 p.m. in the DeBoer Room of the Hannon Library. The secretary recorded the roll and a quorum was verified.

Public Comment

There was no one present who wished to provide public comments.

Provost's Report - Dr. Susan Walsh reviewed the committee dashboard, focusing on degree completions, retention and enrollment trends. She discussed topics the Provosts' Council currently is addressing including accelerated learning programs and implementing requirements of House Bill 2998 regarding transfer credits from community colleges.

Dr. Walsh and President Linda Schott mentioned the collaboration efforts of the local college consortium group, which is comprised of SOU, Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Community College and Rogue Community College.

Dr. Walsh said she has been asked to serve on a newly-formed committee with members of the HECC and in conjunction with the Oregon Council of Presidents. The group has been tasked with creating criteria for tuition increase requests over 5 percent among the Oregon public universities.

Dr. Walsh also informed the committee that the HECC has requested the three larger universities include a financial stress test in their evaluations, as was done with SOU. President Schott thought the board should pay attention to governance and authority issues this request raises.

The provost reviewed activities related to Strategic Direction 1, including professional development sessions, academic program review, and the faculty reward system.

Consent Agenda

Trustee Vincent moved to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2018 meeting, as presented. Trustee Bullock seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Information and Discussion Items

Committee Meeting Schedule

Trustee Rosenberg said the committee generally meets on the third Thursdays in January,

March, June and October. There were no comments from the committee members regarding the current schedule. Dr. Walsh reminded committee members that special meetings may be called to act on curricular matters.

Academic Affairs Update

American Council on Education Fellow – President Schott introduced Dr. Chad Hamill and spoke about his position as the Vice President for Native American Initiatives at Northern Arizona University and his upcoming role at SOU.

Program Approval Process and Update on New Programs – Dr. Walsh discussed the approval process for new academic programs, as detailed in the meeting materials. She also provided an update on new program proposals and recently added programs at SOU, including a Digital Cinema major, Healthcare Administration degree, Wine Business Certificate, Outdoor Adventure and Expedition Leadership master's degree, and the online MBA and Innovation and Leadership programs.

Update on Student Success Coordinators – Trustee Rosenberg said the student success coordinators were a pilot program intended to provide a well-trained advisor in each division who could advise all students and would provide consistency, availability, and accessibility. She said it has worked very well in her department. Dr. Walsh said one of the major goals of this effort was the liaison role the coordinators play between faculty and students. The divisions seem to be consistently pleased with the program.

Education Advisory Board Student Success Collaborative – Dr. Walsh and Dr. Karen Stone described the university's work to improve student outcomes and the student experience with Education Advisory Board's Student Success Management System. Dr. Stone described the mobile app, where students create their own profile. Through the app, faculty and staff can push notifications to students based on their individual situations; SOU can send touchpoints (short surveys to check in with students); and students can create lists and schedule appointments.

With workflow, students can send messages to and schedule appointments with faculty and student success coordinators and vice versa. The predictive analytics piece creates a student profile and indicates the student's predicted risk (red, yellow, green), which permits better alignment for success with the student's major and advising. Analytics reports can also be run at the institutional level. Dr. Stone discussed the academic planning features, which includes building a course schedule, working with an advisor and registering for classes.

Affordable Course Materials – Dr. Jeffrey Gayton said affordable course materials include used textbooks, faculty-provided materials, library resources and open educational resources. Since 1978, the cost of textbooks has increased significantly more than medical care, new homes and the consumer price index.

House Bill 2871 requires public institutions to flag all courses with low cost materials and bookstores to flag the cost of textbooks. SOU is working to comply with this law.

Dr. Gayton covered the results of the course material use survey, which was implemented to obtain course- and program-level data. He discussed the results with the program chairs

so they would be aware of the affordability of materials as well as use of materials among students taking their classes. Dr. Gayton added that student government purchases textbooks and maintains them in the library. Those textbooks are used frequently at the start of a quarter but not often after that. Trustees suggested that the student government may want to look into this to determine if those student fees could be used better elsewhere.

Discussion ensued on advantages and disadvantages of textbook rentals, digital formats and open platforms.

Student Affairs Update

Organizational Update – President Schott provided an update on the search for the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs.

National Survey of Student Engagement – President Schott said this is a national survey on student engagement that SOU administers annually. She said the one result that was surprising was that financial concerns are the most important factor when students consider leaving SOU during their first year. The survey results can be provided to programs so they can make improvements. Dr. Jody Waters explained the connection between administering the survey annually and SOU's accreditation. Discussion ensued on the results of the survey included in the meeting materials. Dr. Blaine Steensland mentioned another survey under consideration that would measure student involvement and satisfaction.

Future Meetings

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this committee is January 17.

Adjournment

Trustee Rosenberg adjourned the meeting at 3:09 p.m.

Date: January 17, 2019

Respectfully submitted by,



Sabrina Prud'homme
University Board Secretary