

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

**Thursday, March 21, 2019
12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (or until business concludes)**

MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum

Committee Members:

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

Chair Daniel Santos called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. in the DeBoer Room of the Hannon Library. The secretary recorded the roll and a quorum was verified. Chair Santos said agenda items would be taken out of order to accommodate a presenter.

Other trustees in attendance: Lyn Hennion and Shanztyn Nhipali.

In addition to some members of President Linda Schott's Cabinet and individuals on the agenda, other attendees included: Ryan Schnobrich, Internal Auditor; Dr. Matt Stillman, Enrollment Services; Joe Mosley, Marketing and Communications; John Stevenson, Information Technology; and Kathy Park, Office of the Board Secretary.

Action, Information, and Discussion Items

Update on Implementation of Education Advisory Board's "Navigate"

Dr. Matt Stillman reviewed Navigate's four modules and highlighted features of each: Guide, a mobile application and for desktop use; Strategic Care for workflow; Intelligence for predictive analytics; and academic planning. He also reviewed the implementation team and areas of responsibility: sponsors, owners, technical leads, application administrators, faculty champions and engagement team leads.

Discussing the implementation timeline, Dr. Stillman and Dr. Karen Stone said SOU was on track. Responding to President Schott's inquiry, Dr. Stone said there will be a big training session on July 9 for individuals who will themselves become trainers.

Responding to Trustee Vincent's inquiry, Drs. Stillman and Stone said the program is designed for current and not prospective students. However, SOU is thinking of expanding the use to an earlier point of adoption for students.

President Schott mentioned this program is an investment that supports various strategic initiatives.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda

Trustee Rosenberg moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Trustee wilson

seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Provost's Report

Provosts' Council Update

Dr. Susan Walsh said the Provosts' Council unanimously approved SOU's digital cinema program and it will go on the consent agenda for the next HECC meeting. SOU is ready to start promoting the program as soon as the HECC vote is taken.

The university presidents tasked the provosts with creating a better program approval process that would provide early notice to other institutions of new programs being developed, rather than when the programs are almost ready to be presented to the Provosts' Council for approval.

Tuition Advisory Council Update

Dr. Walsh said the Tuition Advisory Council (TAC) has been meeting weekly. During quiet week, no students attended the meeting, so there was no quorum. She mentioned items posted on the TAC website, in particular, two documents that will assist in tracking compliance with House Bill 4141 and HECC tuition increase criteria. Greg Perkinson informed trustees of the open forums that have been held on campus.

New Programs Update

Dr. Walsh said a gerontology concentration is being added to the healthcare administration major. A completely online masters of science degree in education will be offered through Academic Partnerships beginning in fall 2019.

Other General Updates

Dr. Walsh mentioned that a new Director of the Honors College, Dr. Cherstin Lyon, and the new Director for the Center for Instructional Support, Clayton Austin, recently were hired.

Dr. Neil Woolf said SOU held a retention summit on March 14. Chris Stanek provided data on retention and graduation rates and small groups worked together to develop actions to improve in certain areas (i.e., first year experience, new student transition/onboarding, graduation initiatives, overall student experience, affordability, gateway courses, Navigate, academic progression and co-curricular experience). He will work with the Student Success and Retention Committee to prioritize ideas, calculate costs and return on investments, and pick ideas to implement. President Schott added that it is important to get people thinking about the topic. Prompted by Trustee Thalden's comment, discussion ensued on identifying reasons students drop out.

Dr. Walsh mentioned the Mail Tribune's article on RCC and some local high schools partnering to provide career and technical education. SOU is now involved in those conversations, as is Southern Oregon Public Television.

Vice President's Report

Enrollment Dashboard

Dr. Neil Woolf reviewed the dashboard included in the meeting materials. Although the number of applications is slightly lower than this time last year, the number of

completed applications and confirmed students is higher. He mentioned enrollment initiatives being implemented including Bright Edge which will improve Google search engine optimization; moving financial aid information to the admissions page; eliminating the requirement to reapply for summer financial aid; five-minute financial aid wellness checks; moving up fall registration by one week; Transfer Tuesdays and Thursdays at RCC and KCC; and presentation of the RCC and KCC dual admissions program to SOHEC. He also discussed the Enrollment Council and the work of its three committees: Recruitment and Marketing, Student Success and Retention, and Finance and Financial Aid.

On the student affairs side, Dr. Woolf discussed medical and mental health usage at the Student Health and Wellness Center (SHWC). Responding to Chair Santos' inquiry, Dr. Woolf said it takes about three weeks to see a mental health counselor at the SHWC, which is typical at other universities.

Dr. Woolf said Student Life runs an effective student mentoring program. Also, in coordination with local school districts, the Multicultural Resource Center hosted a successful Black Youth Leadership Summit. Discussion ensued on SOU's peer-to-peer mentoring program.

Update on Financial Aid Leveraging Project

Financial aid leveraging allows SOU to better utilize aid dollars to get the right amount of money to the right students based on need and merit. What students are willing *and* able to pay has not been part of previous aid strategies. Thus, the SOU aid offer may increase or decrease based on student need and characteristics. An RFP will be issued to find a partner to assist the Financial Aid Office in administering an improved program.

Retention Summit

This agenda item was covered earlier in the meeting.

Action, Information, and Discussion Items (Continued)

Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Organizational Updates

Drs. Walsh and Woolf reviewed their respective organizational charts for the committee.

Overview of SOU Social Justice and Service Programs

Trustee Wilson provided highlights of social justice and service programming at SOU. Student Life works toward creating equity while also creating a sense of belonging. She discussed the five resource centers and noted numerous programs and activities they have developed. Responding to inquiries, Trustee Wilson provided information on SOU's food pantry and resources available to students in need.

Kevin Stevens, the new coordinator for the Veterans Resource Center, introduced himself and talked about new initiatives in the resource center.

Responding to Chair Santos' inquiry, Trustee Wilson said there has been no recent pushback from students or the broader community on equity issues. She and the resource centers spend a good deal of time trying to have intentional dialogic spaces to

get people to understand that equity raises everyone and it does not need to be seen as a threat.

Update on Southern Oregon Higher Education Consortium Partnership

President Schott said a snow storm occurred the day of the consortium's planned summit. Since everyone was not able to attend, a follow up meeting is anticipated. She and the presidents from OIT, RCC and KCC have contacted various newspaper editorial boards in an effort to garner support for increased state funding for higher education. The Ashland and Medford Chambers of Commerce have offered their support. President Schott mentioned the bill that Representative Pam Marsh introduced seeking funding for the consortium and discussions with legislators about the bill. Shenethia Manuel is reaching out to her SOHEC counterparts to coordinate training on the cultural competency bill. Dr. Walsh added that the provosts from the four partner institutions have been talking about agribusiness, rural healthcare and sustainability to find ways to collaborate and possibly share faculty and program support. President Schott added that she and Dr. Woolf are looking for ways to do things with the consortium rather than doing them alone.

Update on Affordable Instructional Materials

Dr. Jeff Gayton discussed SOU's compliance with House Bill 2871, including how signage in the bookstore and the online class schedule indicates courses with low (\$50) or no cost materials. SOU has 317 courses with no material costs, 82 with low cost materials, 190 with costs that exceed \$50, and 185 that have not yet identified their materials.

Dr. Gayton reviewed the open educational resource (OER) cost savings spreadsheet included in the meeting materials. The spreadsheet is a non-exhaustive list of courses he has identified as using OERs and demonstrates savings for students. Dr. Gayton said grants have assisted with the transition to OERs and some faculty have transitioned on their own initiative.

Future Meetings

President Schott mentioned the visits she and Dr. Chad Hamill had with representatives from the Cow Creek, Siletz and Grande Ronde Native American tribes. She said the visits were very successful, focusing on how SOU can better serve learners from these communities. Visits to other tribes are planned.

Adjournment

Chair Santos adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m.

Date: June 20, 2019

Respectfully submitted by,



Sabrina Prud'homme

University Board Secretary