

**Board of Trustees
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 20, 2019**

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	Absent
Deborah Rosenberg	Present		

Chair Daniel Santos called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. in the DeBoer Room of the Hannon Library. The secretary recorded the roll and a quorum was verified. Chair Santos congratulated Trustee Nhipali on his graduation.

Other trustees in attendance: Lyn Hennion, Megan Davis Lightman, Shanztyn Nhipali and Dr. Linda Schott.

Other attendees included: Dr. Neil Woolf, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs; Greg Perkinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration; Janet Fratella, Vice President for Development; Dr. Jody Waters, Associate Provost; Jason Catz, General Counsel; Sabrina Prud'homme, Board Secretary; Kevin Stevens, Veterans Resource Center; Dr. John King, Education Division; Max Jensen, OSA; Echo Fields, retired faculty; Ryan Schnobrich, Internal Auditor; Dr. Katie Pittman, Business, Communication, and the Environment Division; Brent Florendo, Admissions; Dr. Brook Colley, Native American Studies; Joe Mosley, Marketing and Communications; Josh Lovern, Budget Office; John Stevenson, Information Technology; and Kathy Park, Office of the Board Secretary.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda

Trustee Rosenberg moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Trustee Thalden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Vice President's Report

Enrollment Dashboard and Completions Report

Dr. Neil Woolf mentioned the recent commencement ceremony with about 800 participating students. SOU is in the process of conferring approximately 1,300 degrees; the exact number will be certified toward the end of the summer.

Other General Updates

The financial aid leveraging tool is now under contract with a vendor to implement advanced financial aid solutions to help SOU spend its remissions money and institutional aid; the goal is to be operational to help the class of fall 2020.

Dr. Woolf said he attended the fundraiser for the Ruch Outdoor [Community] School, with Chair Hennion, who introduced him to the American Samoan performers. They discussed SOU's pipeline for American Samoan students and how to create a community for SOU's American Samoan students.

Dr. Woolf highlighted a few more points: the Student Health and Wellness Center's renovations; Raider Registrations; the mentoring program Larry Locke is building and growing; and the 44 percent response rate to the internally-created student satisfaction survey. Discussion later ensued on the importance of mentoring programs.

Responding to Chair Santos' inquiry regarding the reasons students drop out, Dr. Woolf said data comes from different sources: the student satisfaction survey; exit surveys; the Simpson Scarborough report; and national literature. A new process for students who want to drop their last course requires them to do so in-person with their student success coordinator, providing another source of information. Responding to Chair Santos' inquiry, Dr. Woolf said EAB's Navigate will identify students who are at risk, which will enable SOU to act more quickly and communicate more broadly. Dr. Jody Waters added that the National Survey of Student Engagement also provides data on students who drop out.

Action, Information and Discussion Items

Curriculum Approvals and Update (Action)

Dr. Jody Waters said the proposals included on the agenda embody SOU's core values, including diversity, inclusion and sustainability, and are largely interdisciplinary. The proposals use existing resources and do not put a strain on any particular division.

*Undergraduate Certificate: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL),
Graduate Certificate: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and
Undergraduate Certificate: Sustainable Tourism*

Dr. Waters reviewed elements of the TESOL certificates included in the meeting materials and said the hope was to begin the program in the fall. She said the certificates would also be beneficial to individuals outside the teaching profession, such as those who plan to work overseas rather than be licensed to teach in K-12 settings.

Dr. Waters said the Sustainable Tourism program is highly interdisciplinary and speaks to market interest. Dr. Katie Pittman said the students who would be the core target of this program would be those in outdoor adventure, environmental science and policy, and business. This certificate addresses several strategic directions.

Trustee Rosenberg moved approval of the three certificates. Trustee Thalden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Online Programs Update: Innovation & Leadership and Master of Science in Education

Dr. Waters said the 10-week, fully-online program for Innovation & Leadership (INL) reaches students who have credits and are seeking to return to college after an absence or to enhance their career opportunities. All the courses for the INL program existed but some required conversion to an online format; the online program does not replace the campus-based program.

Dr. King said the Master of Science in Education currently exists. In the fall, three concentrations will be offered online to reach a broader audience: leadership in early childhood education; curriculum and instruction in STEM education; and adult education.

Overview of Native American Outreach, Education, and Support Programs

President Schott introduced the agenda item, saying it should be thought of in context of SOU's values, strategic plan, and improving things SOU already does. She mentioned Dr. Chad Hamill's work at SOU as an American Council on Education fellow and the report he submitted at the end of the fellowship.

Dr. Brook Colley and Brent Florendo provided an overview of SOU's Native American outreach, education and support programs. They highlighted the founding of the Native American Studies program 26 years ago and its current role at SOU; integrating indigenous perspectives and knowledge; recruitment and retention of Native American students; outreach to tribes (e.g., Klamath Youth Summit); pipeline and pre-college youth programs (e.g., Konaway Nika Tillicum); and future goals.

Mr. Florendo said he is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, is an SOU alumnus, and has held various positions at SOU. He is currently SOU's Native Nations Liaison. He is especially proud of the Konaway Nika Tillicum; its vision is that, through an intergenerational family model, the program would empower Native youth to access higher education, navigate educational systems, encourage self-determination, and strengthen critical thinking by connecting them to a community that values their aspirations.

Dr. Colley mentioned the pressing problem with and importance of understanding sovereignty. She also mentioned the high dropout rate for Native American students, causes of that and ideas to improve their retention.

Overview of Veterans' Programs

Kevin Stevens, an Air Force veteran, highlighted services the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) provides to students, veterans and military families, which go beyond a basic veteran's center. The VRC is part of the Social Justice and Service Team and provides monthly programming and outreach, orientation for veterans and military families, and provides ongoing transitional assistance.

The student population for the VRC is 275 for the year and the VRC also plays a large role in serving the community. Mr. Stevens reviewed the top service needs for SOU veterans: a place to connect with other veterans and military-affiliated students; a transparent, clear process when navigating various components of the university; identifying available, vetted resources; connecting with on campus resources regarding accommodations and selecting classrooms, majors/minors and instructors; and navigating the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Regarding community advocacy, Mr. Stevens said his goal is to build a stronger reputation in the veterans and military-affiliated community and described some of the

ways this will be accomplished. He also mentioned some of the VRC's recent programs, such as a new garden, reflexology and community potluck. Some of the current projects include faculty and staff "Green Zone" training; expanding connections with outdoor programming; reviewing the transfer process, credit evaluation and overall support network; reviewing policies; and building a student veterans organization.

Assessment and Accreditation Update

Dr. Jody Waters said strategic planning, assessment and accreditation are interrelated. Accreditation is the process by which an external evaluator ensures the quality of academic programming as well as compliance with educational standards. Trained peer evaluators assess aspects of the academic offerings to ensure SOU is doing what it says it is doing and is fulfilling its mission. Accreditation allows institutional improvement and ensures degree recognition, eligibility for federal aid, and transfer of credits.

In the course of a year, SOU must submit an annual report and may have to respond to specific inquiries from the accrediting body. SOU currently is in year three of a seven-year cycle, during which a significant report is due. The university will have an onsite accreditation visit in the fall. Dr. Waters also explained the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities' recent revision of the accreditation standards and the affect it may have on SOU.

Future Meetings

Chair Santos said the next meeting would be on October 17.

Adjournment

Chair Santos adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

Date: October 17, 2019

Respectfully submitted by,



Sabrina Prud'homme
University Board Secretary