Oregon TECH
Oregon Institute of Technology

**Meeting and Retreat of the**
**Oregon Tech Board of Trustees**
**Room 402, Portland-Metro Campus**
**November 18, 2021**
**1:00pm – 3:30pm**

# Board of Trustees Meeting
# MINUTES

**Trustees Present:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jessica Gomez, Chair | Vince Jones | Mike Starr |
| Jeremy Brown (remote) | Rose McClure | Michelle Vitali |
| Tim Hasty | Nagi Naganathan, President | Fred Ziari |
| Kathleen Hill | Paul Stewart (remote) | |

**Trustees Unable to Attend:**

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|---|---|
| Lisa Graham | Kelley Minty-Morris |
| Jill Mason | |

**University Staff and Faculty Present:**
Carl Agrifoglio, Operations Manager & Systems Administrator-Information Technology Services
Rebecca Burkeen, Administrative Council
Erin Foley, Vice President & Dean of Students
Ken Fincher, Vice President-Institutional Advancement
Andria Fultz, Associate Professor Communication
David Groff, General Counsel & Interim Board Secretary
Pam Grove, Assistant to University General Counsel & Interim Board Secretary
John Harman, Vice President Finance & Administration
Jay Headley, Director Veterans Services
Tom Keyser, Dean College of Engineering, Technology & Management
Billy Kimmel, ASOIT Officer, Portland-Metro
Brie Landis, ASOIT President, Klamath Falls
Kelsey McCauley, Government Relations
Joel McPherson, Administrative Council
Joanna Mott, Provost & VP of Academic Affairs
Adria Paschal, Senior Executive Assistant to the President
Dan Peterson, Dean College of Health, Arts & Sciences
Terri Torres, Faculty Senate President
Bryan Wada, Consultant 2-Information Technology Services
Jack Zoucha, ASOIT President, Portland-Metro

1. **Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum**
   **Chair Gomez called the meeting to order at 1:26pm. The Board Secretary called roll and a quorum was declared.**

## 2. Reports

**2.1 President Naganathan** reviewed his PowerPoint presentation included in the agenda report. He reported AY2020-21 provided more in-person programming than many other universities last year; graduated the highest number of students in Oregon Tech history: 808 students earned their credentials; and celebrated the first group of cybersecurity degree graduates. He explained Fall 2021 enrollment was lower than expected at -7.8%. He noted the implementation of the Campus Climate Assessment, Faculty Labor Union Contract, and the on-going searches for faculty & staff vacancies. He noted the Oregon Tech Foundation achieved a huge milestone by paying out over $10 million dollars in scholarships. He noted the Cornett Ribbon cutting ceremony on October 7, 2021.

**2.2 ASOIT**

**KF-ASOIT: Vice President Justin Echternacht** reported ASOIT is working on a number of policy proposals, including a proposal related to Board Resolution 1415-2 on shared governance. ASOIT is working on a Student Bill of Rights in coordination with Portland-Metro ASOIT, which will define and enhance student rights and detail a grievance procedure, also outline standards and procedures regarding lines of communication and Title IX's formal resolutions. ASOIT has also updated their Constitution and Bylaws which addressed clarifying the process and procedures for officer elections. ASOIT is working on community building initiatives including hosting and coordinating meetings between students, administration and faculty. ASOIT is working with the Office of Student Involvement & Belonging on a reproductive health initiative where reproductive health items and administration of equity items to students will be distributed free of charge. ASOIT is working on proposals for a campus project that would be paid for with Covid Relief Funds. A monthly activities calendar has been developed and placed in restroom and other conspicuous locations to hopefully increase student involvement in on campus activities.

**PM-ASOIT: President Jack Zoucha** discussed campus involvement by creating a community feeling on campus. He noted Covid has been a challenge, leading to a lack of activities; ASOIT is working on solutions such as club/event sponsorship, open doors, free food/coffee. Campus clubs now number 5 with 8 in the process of registering.

**2.3 Administrative Council**

**Rebecca Burkeen and Joel McPherson** listed the elected Council and noted that at the retreat held virtually on September 3, 2021, three areas of focus were decided upon: empowerment, culture and retention as a way to encourage constituents to find ways to improve the university as a whole. Empowerment includes increasing communication between Administrative Council and Administrative Staff and encouraging engagement in accomplishing Administrative Council goals. Culture includes improving communication and keeping people in the know and encouraging more transparent communication and establishing communication with Vice Presidents and Senior Leadership. Retention includes professional development, different and unique training opportunities and hosting a pro-nouns training for faculty, staff and students.

**2.4 Strategic Enrollment Management**

**Provost Mott** reviewed figures in the agenda report. Next steps concerning admissions is to continue analysis of 2021 data and use for 2022 strategy development; reach out to non-retained students not enrolled at another 4 year university and re-engage; reach out to student attending Community College instead of Oregon Tech for potential transfers; Deans and departments working with admissions plans to include faculty; continue admissions work on multiple new initiatives detailed in AQSS report. Advising and retention efforts will include review of retention data-non returns from spring to fall; purchase of Civitas software to improve retention through enhanced advising; improve summer registration process for incoming freshmen; work with new advising coordinator in each college on facilitating advising and tracking data; and train faculty in advising.

**2.5 Faculty Senate President Terri Torres**

**President Torres** noted she represents Faculty Senate and as their President, and reported faculty asked her to relay that they would like to be heard. Torres said faculty are good people trying to do their best in difficult times and are deeply connected to students. Faculty know students are fragile right now and faculty are trying to help them the best way they can. Torres said faculty are carrying deep wounds right now and that union negotiations were difficult. Reported "we all want a university that takes seriously the needs of its students and faculty." Faculty Senate hosted a come-together event this fall, where faculty, student, staff, and administrators were invited. Torres said Board and Administration "must truly hear us and take our feedback very, very seriously." She said faculty did notice the addition of board member email addresses. Torres noted a Senator Frederick letter and discussed provisions listed in SB 854. Advised Provost Mott and the Senate Executive Committee have met and are working together to reshape Faculty Senate in a way to move forward. Said this new organization allows for communication and collaboration without adding duplication of work. Discussed need for an academic master plan, general education review and includes transfer credits, efforts in retention and recruitment.

**2.6 COVID-19** - written report in the agenda packet.

**2.7 Legislative** – written report in the agenda packet.

**2.8 Academic Quality and Student Success Committee**

**Chair Brown** summarized the reports and presentations made at the meeting. Discussion held regarding the various recognitions of Native Americans Heritage Month and what is being done in celebration of that forthcoming. Discussed enrollments for the new academic programs that we've approved over the past few years. Continued discussion was held with respect to vacancies, faculty recruiting, and some of the issues that really impact filling the vacancies that we have and how best to ensure that we get the best faculty and staff at Oregon Tech. Discussed recurring searches in terms of searches that we had last year that didn't fill and also didn't fill the year before. Noted Sharon Beaudry shared her sabbatical experience with Fulbright in South Africa, and noted she was the first Fulbright

recipient for Oregon Tech, and her contribution to the classrooms at the CEET building and developing a great environment for students to learn in an active sense. He noted Dr. Campolo's report on the Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy and the positive steps and the upcoming accreditation. He noted Jay Headley of Veteran Services report which included his enthusiasm and passion for all things Veteran related at Oregon Tech.

**2.9 Finance and Facilities Committee**

**Chair Jones** summarized the FOAC and VPFA reports, including updates on capital projects and the Year End Report for General Fund Budget for 2021.

**2.10 Executive Committee**

**Chair Gomez** shared that Committee is recommending candidates to the Governor for the Board. Several were forwarded to the Governor's Office for reappointment and three new Board members for appointment. For reappointment: Trustee Brown, Trustee Hill, Trustee Jones, Trustee Minty-Morris, Trustee Starr and Trustee Ziari. For appointment: Stefan Bird, Kanth Gopalpur and Celia Nunez.

**3. Consent Agenda**

**3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the July 15, 2021 Meeting**

No changes voiced. Minutes approved as submitted.

**4. Discussion Items – none**

**5. Action Items**

**5.1 <u>Review of President Naganathan's Evaluation and Approval of 2021-22 Goals</u>**

**Chair Gomez** summarized Dr. Naganathan's evaluation and newly established goals for 2021-22. Written report in the agenda packet.

Trustee Jones moved to approve the action item. Trustee Starr seconded the motion. With trustees Brown, Hill, Jones, Stewart, Vitali, Ziari and Gomez present and voting aye, and Trustee McClure voting nay, the **motion passed**.

**6. Other Matters**

**7. Public Comment –**

Andria Fultz spoke to Oregon Public Universities' Boards of Trustees' commitment to continue or implement six specific actions effective immediately in lieu of the passage of SB 854.

OT-AAUP President Sean St. Clair – addressed concerns over recent faculty turnover rates and associated difficulty being experience in replacing faculty. He addressed poor morale among faculty impacting retention among faculty and students.

**8. Adjournment**

**Meeting was adjourned at 3:38pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

**David P. Groff**
*University General Counsel & Interim Board Secretary*

## EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD

The Board met in Executive Session ORS 192.660(2)(i) to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer.