
Board of Trustees MINUTES

Trustees Present:

Jessica Gomez, Chair (in person)
Jeremy Brown
Lisa Graham
Kathleen Hill (in person)

Vince Jones, Vice Chair
Rose McClure (in person)
Jill Mason
Kelley Minty Morris (in person)

Nagi Naganathan, President (in person)
Grace Rusth (in person)
Mike Starr (in person)
Fred Ziari

Trustees Unable to Attend:

Paul Stewart

University Staff and Faculty Present in Person:

Erin Foley, VP Student Affairs and Dean of Students
Brian Fox, VP Finance and Administration
David Groff, General Counsel
Scotty Hayes, Information Technology Consultant
Joanna Mott, Provost and VP Academic Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management (via Teams)
Adria Paschal, Senior Executive Assistant to the President (via Teams)

1. Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum

Chair Gomez called the meeting to order at 9:16am. The Board Secretary called roll and a quorum was declared.

2. Reports

2.1 Finance and Facilities Committee Report (9:20am) (5 min)

Vice Chair Jones reported the committee, acting as the audit committee, accepted the internal audit report for the Educational Partnership and Outreach division and authorized the president to cancel the existing request for proposal (RFP) for internal auditing services, issue a revised RFP with revised scope, and award the contract based on the recommendation of the selection committee.

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the June 30, 2020 Meeting

With no amendments proposed, the minutes of the June 30, 2020 meeting stand as published.

4. Action Items

4.1 Approval of the COVID-19 Reopening Plan

Trustees Brown and Graham joined the meeting at 9:22am.

VP Foley noted the Governor's Executive Orders impacting higher education and the requirement for the university to create and submit a reopening plan to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. She reviewed the draft Reopening Plan, noting all academic and non-academic planning associated with reopening needs to be flexible to adjust to what the virus is doing and we are prepared for variations between the campuses. She stated fall sports are postponed to November 1 but they could be postponed until spring. She explained the university has worked and continues to work with a variety of agencies including the CDC and local health authorities regarding the most recent best practices and recommendations. The university will continue to educate faculty, staff, and students regarding safety requirements and the reopening plan. **Provost Mott** added that the Academic Affairs' re-opening plan focuses on creating relationships with new students and students within a year of graduating. She stated the modality of teaching will vary by campus, course level, and course type. In general, all lectures at the Portland-Metro campus will be remote with labs in-person and at the Klamath Falls campus all labs and the entry level lectures will be in-person; the higher-level lectures will be taught remotely. Discussion regarding challenges and feedback on the remote teaching offered in spring term and the pros and cons of synchronous and asynchronous courses. **Trustee Mason** stated re-opening is a moving target and felt the document was well thought out and thorough. She and **Trustee Brown** expressed concern about the amount of stress some students might experience with the remote style and the desire or need to study with other students. She noted asynchronous courses were very much appreciated by students at OHSU. **Trustee McClure** stated students who had a relationship with their faculty for fall and winter terms easily transitioned to the remote teaching in spring term, but there is concern about new students learning remotely because that relationship isn't established. She felt the department chairs should expect the faculty to engage more online – having study sessions with the students breaking into chat sessions. She noted online teaching and connecting with students requires a huge investment in time. Discussion regarding impact of teaching modalities on students, medical/ADA accommodations for students and faculty, and department flexibility to distribute teaching assignments.

Trustee Starr moved to approve the COVID-19 Reopening Plan and authorize staff to send the same to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. **Trustee Minty Morris** seconded the motion.

With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Approval of a 2021 Board Meeting Calendar

Chair Gomez requested the board retreat be moved to accommodate trustee schedules. The meeting dates for the retreat were moved to July 15 and 16, 2021.

Trustee Rusth moved to approve the 2021 Board meeting calendar with the following dates:

January 28
April 8
May 26 and 27
July 15 and 16
November 18

Trustee Graham seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Board Retreat

Chair Gomez stated this would normally be the time to have the board retreat but since we cannot meet in person it was cancelled. She would like to have a meeting to discuss strategy and that topic is best to discuss in person. Consensus to postpone a retreat until the Board can meet it in person.

Trustee Brown suggested holding a board meeting prior to the November 2020 meeting if there are items needing board attention given all of the uncertainties and ever-changing guidelines. Consensus to plan for the November 2020 board meeting to be a two-day meeting to be held on the 12th and 13th.

6. Other Matters - none

7. Public Comment

The Board Secretary noted a letter was received, emailed to the trustees, and will be posted to the trustee webpage under handouts for this meeting.

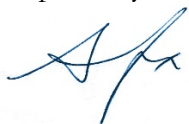
The Trustees expressed appreciation to faculty and staff for the work done on the reopening plan and revisions.

President Naganathan recognized Associate Vice President Di Saunders and her service to Oregon Tech and higher education in general. She is officially retiring July 30.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:16am.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Fox
Board Secretary

The Board of Trustees met from 10:35am to 11:35am in Executive Session per ORS 192.660(2)(f) and ORS 40.225 Rule 503 to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection and to have confidential communication subject to attorney-client privilege.

The Board of Trustees met from 12:15pm to 4:15pm for training that included required annual ethics training and a general board refresher.

