

Minutes

The Faculty Senate met June 2, 2020, via Zoom due to COVID19 social distancing requirements.

Attendance/Quorum

President Terri Torres called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. All Senators or alternates were present except Samantha Henkell.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May 5, 2020 meeting were approved upon minor changes.

Reports of Officers

Report of the President – Terri Torres

- President Torres met with Dr. Naganathan and discussed:
 - The future of the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center (OMIC).
 - Changes we would like to see happen with Fiscal Operations Advisory Council (FOAC).
 - Furloughs – asked that the Provost and Dean’s not be furloughed at this time. Emphasized they are our academic leaders and we need their help in reaching our goals. Some of the goals include general education, assessment, accreditation, new programs, and implementing ways to improve teaching.
 - Budget – 40% of our budget comes from the state. We would like to become a self-reliant university. In order to do so we should consider fundraising, building relations with companies and industries to help provide us with equipment, research money, grant work, and develop new programs.
- Data science and cybersecurity are two new programs that have already been developed. Many more programs could be developed and Provost Mott has some very good ideas in moving forward.
- COVID -19 concerns – individuals with concerns will need to contact their supervisor. Human Resources (HR) is working on a letter regarding these issues that will be sent out.
- Faculty Welfare survey – Faculty survey is complete and has been sent out to all faculty. Dr. Naganathan, Dr. Mott, and the Deans have all been asked to respond to the survey.
- Met with Dr. Mott several times, discussed remote teaching and the plans for fall term.
- Thanked Roger Lundgren, Ben Bunting and the rest of the committee for all the hard work and dedication. Greatly appreciates all the work done to complete the fall schedule.
- Thanked Matthew Sleep, Vanessa Bennett, Mark Clark and Lindy Stewart for their work this year and for supporting her as the Faculty Senate President. Also thanked the committee members for their unwavering support and hard work.
- Thanked Dr. Joanna Mott for working with her throughout the year and expressed her appreciation for her leadership.
- End of Report

Report of the Vice President – Matthew Sleep

- Reported that the FOAC and Academic Council have not met.
- Thanked everyone for doing a great job switching over to remote teaching. Recognized it was no easy task, but it allowed students to continue their education.
- There are still a lot of challenges facing faculty regardless of COVID. Referred to the Faculty Welfare survey and emphasized that there are real problems. Does not feel a “hard-reset” is possible without addressing some meaningful issues.
- Thanked SenEx and all of Faculty Senate for their dedication and hard work.
- Thanked Terri Torres for the amazing job she did as Faculty Senate President. A lot of hard work goes unnoticed, she single-handedly handled many issues and did a wonderful job.

Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 2 2020

- Thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve.
- End of report

Report of the ASOIT Representative – Samantha Henkell

- No Report

Reports of Standing Committees

Faculty Rank Promotion & Tenure (RPT) – Monica Breedlove

- Did not meet. Most of the charges the committee was working on are in line with Oregon Tech American Association of University Professors (OT-AAUP). Those charges can be put on hold until the next academic year.
- End of report

Faculty Welfare – Kari Lundgren

- Report focused on the survey administered by the Faculty Welfare Committee winter term.
- Referred to the written report of the qualitative analysis put together by colleagues Dr. Kevin Brown and Dr. Kyle Chapman. The data complements the quantitative analysis presented last month.
- Key takeaways – Oregon Tech faculty feel good about working at Oregon Tech when they are doing what they were hired and trained to do, teaching students. As reflected in the survey comments, faculty are dedicated to the core teaching mission of the university.
- Contributing factors that interfere directly or indirectly with teaching – working conditions at Oregon Tech (workplace culture and morale), out of load work, stress, burnout, and relationship with administrators. Additional concerns include fairness, work distribution, the decision making process, and a specific sense that the current administration is causing the university to lose focus on its core teaching mission.
- Conclusion, the qualitative analysis of the survey indicates faculty are passionate and dedicated to teaching and their students at this institution, but dissatisfied with the institution as a workplace.
- Thanked the Faculty Welfare Committee, Kevin Brown, Kyle Chapman, Tracey Coon, Dibyajyoti Deb, Sarah Fitzpatrick, Chelsea Gustafson, and Eve Klopff.
- End of Report

Academic Standards – Addie Clark

- Referred to the final report from the Academic Standards Committee in the reading packet which summarizes the charges.
- Two of the three charges completed before COVID.
- Charge three – Restructuring of committees in light of unionization. The report was sent to the Provosts office with instructions for Dr. Mott to review when available.
- End of report

Faculty Compensation (FCC) – Michael Healy

- No Report

Reports of Special or Ad Hoc Committee

- No Report

Unfinished Business

Abdy Afjeh – Vice Provost Research & Academic Affairs

- Dr. Afjeh thanked everyone for allowing him to talk about accreditation requirements.

Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 2 2020

- Communicated to Senate and faculty members on Accreditation Commission requirements. Referred to a standardized campus-wide syllabus template which includes student learning outcomes (SLO), and evaluations of those learning outcomes. If we do not comply with some of these requirements we could be placed on probation. Some of the requirements are already included in the existing faculty handbook. There are optional pieces that faculty can use.
- The learning outcomes need to be available before the students take a class, and they need to be listed in the university course catalog.
- End of Report

Nagi Naganathan – President of Oregon Institute of Technology

- Congratulated President Terri Torres on completing two years of leadership as Faculty Senate President and welcomed Don McDonnell to his new role.
- Thanked all faculty for their hard work in making spring term successful.
- June is going to be filled with a lot of uncertainty. Governor Brown has requested to meet with the University Presidents to discuss budgets and school reopening.
- As stated in the virtual forum he is guiding concepts as we navigate this crisis which is going to drive the decision process. Decisions include health and safety of all, student success, taking care of employee talent, and financial sustainability.
- Enrollment is up for fall term.
- Must present a balanced budget to the Board of Trustees in the coming weeks. In the FY 2021, if we can manage resources wisely within the next two biennium's and based on projections, we may see leaner years. We will need to be more strategically responsible and think pragmatically.
- Thanked the Program Reduction and Elimination Committee (PREC) for all of their hard work.
- Stated that we will be prepared for contingencies. Many Universities are hearing of a 20% drop if they have to teach remotely. No scientific data supports this and we will not slash our budgets for a 20% drop. We are going to prepare for a 1% growth which has been the basis for our budget building.
- End of report

New Business

Michael Healy

- Announced that the Catalyzed challenge was canceled, but are moving forward with the symposium.

Cristina Negoita

- Announced that Union negotiations will be on-going through the summer.

Iris Godwin

- Reported on COVID-19: Oregon Tech Perspectives. The project is supported by the Oregon Tech Libraries/University Archives. It encourages faculty, staff and students to share their coronavirus experience to preserve it for future generations.

Lindy Stewart

- Shared a letter from CCT.

Open Floor Period

- No Report

Report of the Provost – Dr. Joanna Mott

- Thanked everyone for helping as she transitioned into her first year at Oregon Tech.
- Reported that fall enrollment for freshmen is up with a total of 768.
- Mentioned there is still some concern about face-to-face versus remote teaching for fall.

Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 2 2020

- Visited the ASOIT virtual forum.
- Requested Faculty Senate talk with colleagues and get students registered now rather than later. The commitment from students is important for both the student and the university. Reiterated the importance of student registration, and emphasized that we are going to give them the best experience we can under the conditions.
- Planning for the fall. We will not have all of the answers before most of you leave for the summer. The situation is not in our control. We are waiting on the Oregon Health Authority to come out with approvals. The seven public universities put together a framework that was sent to the Higher Education (HECC). HECC, combined the public, and private universities, and the community colleges framework, and sent that to Oregon Health Authorities. We will align with whatever the guidelines are going to be.
- Provosts statewide are meeting every week.
- Thanked the working groups.
- The Governor's previous executive orders did give exemptions for the health-related fields needing in-person labs.
- Faculty will need to be aware that summer is phase one, fall phase two, and of there is the possibility we would have to back up to remote delivery.
- Emails and updates will be sent out when we know more things. A lot of what we are doing is planning and waiting.
- Erin Foley leads the reopening workgroup. The group has representatives from faculty, staff and senior leadership.
- Apologized for the delay on a response to the campus climate survey.
- If a faculty member has a medical vulnerability they will need provide documentation to HR from their health care provider. They are also working on an early retirement incentive program.
- End of report

Report of the President's Council Delegate – Terri Torres

- No Report

Report of the Inter-institutional Faculty Senate (IFS) Representative – Mike Meyers

- No Report

Report of the Fiscal Operations Advisory Council (FOAC) Representative – Matthew Sleep

- No Report

Report of the Administrative Council Delegate – Zach Jones

- The May meeting was a success. Senior leadership and Executive staff participated in successful structured Q&A session.
- The June meeting will be held next week.
- End of report

Adjournment

Terri Torres adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Vanessa Bennett, Secretary
/sb

Academic Standards	Name	College	Campus
2022 Co-chair	Addie Clark	HAS	KF
2023 Co-chair	Hui-Yun-Li	HAS	KF
2023	Ryan Brown	HAS	PM
2023	Janette Isacson	HAS	Online
2022	Irina Demeshko	HAS	KF
2022	Mason Marker	ETM	KF
2021	Sandra Bailey	ETM	KF
Ex-officio	Wendy Ivie		

Elections	Name	College	Campus
Chair	Christopher Syrnyk	HAS	KF
2021	Eklas Hossain	ETM	KF
2023	Rosanna Overholser	HAS	KF
2021	Dan Carrere	HAS	ETM

Executive Committee	Name	College	Campus
President	Don McDonnell	HAS	KF
Vice-President	Christopher Syrnyk	HAS	KF
Secretary	Ben Bunting	HAS	KF
Senator	Lindy Stewart	ETM	PM
Senator	Mark Clark	HAS	KF

Faculty Appeals	Name	College	Campus
2022	Suzanne Hopper	HAS	Online
2023	Teshome Jiru	ETM	PM
2022	Robyn Wilde	HAS	KF
2023	Jim Fischer	HAS	KF
2022	Richard Bailey	ETM	KF
Alternate	Wangping Sun	ETM	PM
Alternate	Douglas Lynn	ETM	KF
Alternate	Tiernan Fogarty	HAS	KF
Alternate	Bobbi Kowash	HAS	KF
Alternate	Mateo Aboy	ETM	Online

Faculty Compensation	Name	College	Campus
Co-chair 2023	Sean Sloan	ETM	KF
Co-chair	Michael Healy	ETM	KF
2022	Jesica Luebbers	HAS	KF
2022	Joseph Reid	HAS	KF
2022	Stephen Schultz	HAS	KF
Do not fill this position			
2022	Aaron Scher	ETM	PM
Ex-officio	Joanna Mott	Provost	
Ex-officio	Maureen De Armond	HR	

Faculty Rank, Prmotion, and Tenure	Name	College	Campus
2021 Chair	Monica Breedlove	Tenured HAS	KF
Perhaps do not fill this position			
2022	Yuehai Yang	Non-tenured HAS	KF
2021	Phil Howard	Tenured ETM	KF
2022	Chelsie Akers	Non-tenured HAS	KF
2021	Kristy Weidman	Tenured ETM	KF
2022	Iris Godwin	Library	KF
2022	Calvin Caldwell	Non-tenured ETM	PM
2022	Robert Paxton	Tenured ETM	PM
PAC	Matt Schnackenberg	Tenured PAC	KF

Faculty Welfare	Name	College	Campus
Co-chair	Yasha Rohwer	HAS	KF
Co-chair	Sarah Fitzpatrick	HAS	KF
2023	Kari Lundgren	HAS	KF
2022	Kevin Brown	HAS	KF
2022	Tracy Coon	ETM	KF
2022	Chelsea Gustafson	HAS	PM
2022	Eve Klopff	ETM	KF
2022	Dibyajyoti Deb	HAS	FK



Date of Notice: May 22nd, 2020

Motion Type: Resolution

Current Status: Adopted 5/20/20

R.01

The purpose of this resolution is to request, as supported by recent faculty and student survey findings, and in accordance with Oregon Tech foundational documents, the Oregon Tech Textbook Affordability Plan, and State and Federal Law, that faculty supply course adoptions in time to be made available to students by the opening day of registration.

This would help students by allowing them adequate time to prepare for their courses and providing them the most options for acquiring their course materials with the least financial burden.

Motion

WHEREAS the Higher Education Opportunity Act (Federal Public Law No: 110-315 Title 1, Section 112)

- requires colleges to publish within the internet course schedule the course material information and price for required or recommended textbook or supplement for each listed course,
- requires colleges to provide bookstores course material information (upon request). and
- encourages colleges to inform students of ways to save money on course materials;

WHEREAS Oregon Revised Statute 348.757

- Requires the designation of courses whose materials consist of open or free textbooks or other low-cost course materials in the published course descriptions that provided to students at the time of course registration;

WHEREAS Oregon Tech is a leader among Oregon's public university system in transparency and affordability policy compliance

- having implemented a search by materials cost function, and
- with course adoption reporting a prerequisite for accurate cost designation;

WHEREAS Oregon Tech's Faculty Handbook states

- "all colleges must now provide textbook information on their websites beginning on the day students can begin registering for a term", and
- "This makes it imperative that all textbook adoptions are submitted at least several weeks before this beginning registration date", and
- "To help students get the most value for textbooks they wish to sell back, the adoptions should be received, at the latest, by the first day of dead week each term" (Faculty Handbook pg.31);

WHEREAS the Oregon Tech Textbook Affordability Taskforce, as established by OR HB 2213,

- States the goal of the adjustment of institutional culture of text adoption and syllabus publishing to make materials available in order to inform student curriculum choices and planning, and
- Found that 35% of Oregon Tech faculty surveyed report identifying their course material adoptions later than opening of registration;

WHEREAS Oregon Tech's mission statement includes a commitment to diversity,

- and affordability is a barrier for students, disproportionately affecting students of underrepresented communities;

WHEREAS Oregon' Tech's Core Themes include Student and Graduate Success,

- and affordability and course preparation are mediators of success;

WHEREAS the ASOIT-PM's Student Registration and Advising Experience Report found high consensus among students surveyed that course material information, supplemental information, and course syllabi would be helpful to them;

Section II

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that course adoptions be published to students before registration opens for the new term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that faculty supply their course adoptions to the bookstore by the first day of dead week of the previous term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that faculty consider publishing their syllabi and supplemental information to students, including options for course materials, as early as possible.

Upon passage, the ASOIT-PM Communications Officer will send a signed copy of this resolution to Provost Mott, Associate Provost Afjeh, Administrative Council Chair Zach Jones, Faculty Senate President Terri Torres, and the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

Signed, ASOIT-PM President

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Stefan Valenzuela", is written over a horizontal line.