

## Minutes

The Faculty Senate met May 18, 2021, via Zoom, due to COVID-19 social distancing requirements.

## Attendance/Quorum

President Don McDonnell called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. All Senators or alternates were present except Sean Sloan.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the April 6, 2021 Faculty Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

## Reports of the Officers

### Report of the President – Don McDonnell

- Don began by thanking all of the Senators for their dedication and persistence over the last two months. He also thanked the faculty overall, and encouraged them to focus on their students, and reach out to Senators if they have concerns.
- He also thanked the staff for their support of faculty.
- Don met with the Provost, who mentioned the possibility of a mandatory vaccination requirement for the fall.
- Emeritus status was granted to both Elvira Schechtel and Barry Canaday.
- The NTT faculty promotion policy passed by Senate during the April meeting will be presented to President's Council on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Don reported that SenEx sent a response letter to the Board of Trustees regarding their decision following the faculty vote of no confidence in President Naganathan. There has been no response back from the Board to SenEx, but Don said that he would welcome such a response.
- SenEx has been discussing how the Senate should proceed in response to current events, and Don suggested that the Senate hold an Executive Session to participate in a continuation of this discussion.
  - There was some discussion about when during this Senate meeting the Executive Session should happen, and it was ultimately decided to wait until the Open Floor part of the meeting to hold the Session.
- Don said that he anticipates that Senate's primary task next year will be transitioning to a more academic focus now that the union contract has been ratified. He recommended that this transition should be guided by Academic Standards' report on the matter.
- We have elections for Senators for AY 2021-2022 coming up, and once those are complete, Don will be sending out his slate for next year's Senate Executive Committee.
- Questions?
  - Mark Clark clarified that Senators whose terms are ending this year, but who are interested in running for another term should contact Don directly.
- End of report.

### Report of the Vice President – Christopher Szymyk

- Christopher said that as far as he knows, he has responded to all nominations for and received candidate statements from Senate candidates for AY 2021-2022. The ballot will go live this Friday, and will close next Friday at 5pm. Candidate statements will be sent out via a separate email.
- Questions?
  - There were no questions.
- End of report.

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### Report of the ASOIT Delegate – Mason Wichmann

- Mason said that ASOIT in Klamath Falls is currently working through some personnel changes, bylaws updates, and officer training.
- He also introduced Brie Landis as next year's ASOIT President.
  - Brie then made a brief introductory statement.
- End of report.

### Reports of the Standing Committees

#### Faculty Rank Promotion & Tenure (RPT) – Monica Breedlove

- RPT has not met, and is waiting to hear what happens with the NTT faculty promotion policy at President's Council.
- End of report.

#### Faculty Welfare – Yasha Rohwer

- Welfare has completed all their charges, so there is no report.

#### Academic Standards – Addie Clark

- Addie said that Academic Standards has two outstanding charges (#s 1 and 4), but hopes to complete them tonight. The committee's recommendations include input from Wendy Ivie from the Registrar's Office.
  - The first charge was to review the current waitlist policy and make recommendations.
    - **To see the committee's conclusions and recommendations in detail, please view the updated version of Academic Standards' May report on page 12 of this packet.**
    - Addie said that Banner has a setting that can enable automatic waitlists, which are "waitlists in the traditional sense of how you might think waitlists should work."
  - The second charge was to evaluate the student add/drop timeline and make recommendations.
    - **To see the committee's conclusions and recommendations in detail, please view the updated version of Academic Standards' May report on page 12 of this packet.**
    - The committee's recommendations are attempting to address the difficulty students sometimes have in tracking down their advisor(s) and getting a physical signature.
    - The Registrar is changing the course substitution form to be an online document, so the committee has recommended that they do the same for the add/drop form.
- Questions?
  - Kyle Chapman asked if automatic waitlisting would prevent faculty from allowing particular students in when the class is at capacity?
    - Addie responded that the automatic waitlists would erase this ability, but that individual faculty could also opt-out of the automatic waitlists to begin with, and this would provide the same waitlist functionality that we currently have.
  - Kyle also asked *when* faculty would have to opt out of automatic waitlisting by: before registration begins? Or could this setting be changed during registration?
    - Addie did not know the answer, but said she would ask Wendy for clarification.
    - Kyle clarified that he was asking because sometimes certain students need a class to progress in their curriculum while others don't, and he would like to see the former students be ahead of the latter on waitlists.
  - Mark Clark asked if Addie was prepared to make a motion for Senate as a whole to endorse the committee's recommendations.
    - Addie made the motion, and Mark seconded.

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- Discussion on the waitlist recommendations:
  - Paula asked if every single course, in the future, will automatically have a waitlist attached to it.
    - Addie said yes.
      - Paula pointed out that some courses have no waitlist for a reason. She asked if it would be necessary going forward to repeatedly take the waitlists off of every appropriate course every term.
        - Addie said she could ask Wendy for clarification on this point.
  - Christopher asked if the recommendations took into account the potential problem of students trying to “game” the registration system.
    - Addie said that this possibility was not considered by the committee.
  - I read Seth Anthony’s question, which he had placed into the Zoom chat. Seth wondered why we needed a motion to “accept” the committee’s recommendations, when Senate does not have the power to adopt the recommendations in any formal sense.
    - Mark clarified that the motion and vote were to show Senate’s endorsement of the recommendations.
      - Dr. Mott explained that the recommendations should ultimately be sent to her and to Wendy if approved by the Senate.
  - Don asked if Dr. Mott had any input on the first charge.
    - Dr. Mott did not respond.
- The waitlist recommendations were voted on and approved unanimously.
- Discussion on the add/drop recommendations:
  - Mark asked if there was a particular problem this charge was aiming to solve.
    - Addie said that the problem is that advisor signatures are often difficult for students to procure on a short timeline. The hope is that making the form an electronic one it will be easier in the future for students to get advisor signatures.
      - Maureen Sevigny expressed support of this move to electronic documentation.
  - Maureen suggested that the deadline be moved to 8am on Monday of week two of the term, to take into account the fact that some Portland-Metro courses don’t hold their first meeting session until Saturday (so, a day after the current Friday afternoon deadline).
    - Addie accepted this as a friendly amendment to the recommendations.
- The add/drop recommendations were voted on and approved unanimously.
- Don thanked Addie and the Academic Standards committee.
- End of report.

### Faculty Compensation (FCC) – Sean Sloan

- Sean Sloan was absent, so no report.

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### Reports of Special or Ad Hoc Committee

- Currently, there are no Special or Ad Hoc committees.

### Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.

### New Business

#### Vanessa Bennett

- Don apologized for prematurely announcing the results of the Emeritus votes earlier in the meeting.
- Vanessa said everything in her report had already been covered.

#### Erin Foley

- Erin started by saying she would address Don's earlier question about a possible university-wide vaccination requirement for the fall.
- **Erin gave a PowerPoint presentation, which you can view in full on pages 13-20 of this packet.** I have only recorded an overview of the information presented for the sake of brevity.
  - She said that she has given this presentation to many other Oregon Tech stakeholders in addition to Faculty Senate.
  - She also prompted the Senate with a question: what role should Oregon Tech play in community health when it comes to increasing the vaccination rate?
  - She also proceeded through an example showing how COVID-19 was passed between students due to their not observing established guidelines.
    - This example, Erin argued, helps show why it would be useful to require vaccination for anyone coming onto campus(es) in the fall.
  - She provided a list of pros and cons for such a requirement, as gathered from outside comments.
  - She also covered next steps, if we were to go forward in establishing such a requirement.
  - She pointed out that, increasingly, Oregon public universities are choosing to put a requirement in place.
- Erin said if you have comments regarding a possible vaccine requirement for the fall at Oregon Tech, to send those comments to her via email by May 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ultimately, Erin said, it is Dr. Naganathan's decision whether we implement such a requirement or not.
- Questions?
  - Terri asked who a requirement for Oregon Tech would include (students, faculty, and/or staff).
    - Erin responded that the requirement would be for everyone (all three groups).
  - Brie asked if it would be possible for the university to put on a vaccination event, to increase equity and access.
    - Erin said that Klamath Falls students can simply cross the street and get a vaccination at Sky Lakes. She questioned if this would be necessary for our Portland-Metro students, considering there are already many vaccination options available in such an urban area.
  - Mark expressed support of a vaccination requirement. He also said that Oregon law is extremely permissive of exemptions, so that might lessen the efficacy of a vaccine requirement.
    - Erin responded to say that the exemption process would actually be fairly onerous for people who wanted to opt out. She compared this to the exemption process from the current MMR vaccine requirement.

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- She also said that the Oregon public universities haven't decided, collectively, what a COVID-19 vaccination exemption process would look like, but that they would have the ability to decide in the future. Oregon Tech can make some of these decisions at least for itself.
  - In short, Erin said that we won't know what the exemption process will look like until after we've decided the matter of the requirement itself, but that the exemption process could, in theory, be involved and not essentially just a rubber stamp.
- Mark also asked if Erin had a sense of why we haven't decided on the requirement yet.
  - Erin responded that as recently as three weeks ago, none of the universities were planning on requiring a vaccination in the fall, but now the winds are changing, so to speak.
- Maureen pointed out that the Chronicle is keeping a list of universities nationwide that have announced a requirement thus far. Currently, that number is at 376 universities. She recommends the Chronicle as a resource for seeing how this idea is trending, and where.
  - Erin stated that her goal is to have a decision from Dr. Naganathan on this by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Yasha Rohwer asked what "more normal" would mean for the fall, exactly.
  - Erin began her response by cautioning the group that things might change due to circumstances beyond her control.
    - She said that based on an April meeting with OEA, "normal" for fall would include:
      - No classroom capacity limits.
      - Distancing would not be required, but encouraged.
      - Face coverings would likely continue into 2022, though the CDC's recent guidance throws this into question.
      - On-campus housing units would still require COVID isolation rooms held open.
    - Erin repeated that we will have a better idea as we get closer to fall.

### Open Floor

#### Monica Breedlove

- Monica prepared a list of concerns from her constituents:
  - Of the faculty who were denied tenure relinquishment last year, some have put in for relinquishment again this year and have heard nothing back so far.
  - Some faculty have concerns with the Board of Trustees. They want faculty or Faculty Senate (and students) to have a say in who ends up on the Board of Trustees in the future.
  - There are lots of questions about Testing Services, and whether or not the services that were discontinued for this year will be reinstated for next year.
  - There have been changes to Canvas without notification to faculty, and this has negatively affected instructors' ability to offer their courses successfully.
  - Overall, faculty are frustrated with "unilateral decisions" that are being made.

### Motion to Invoke Executive Session of Faculty Senate

- Mark moved that the Senators convene an executive session. Cristina Negoita seconded this motion.
- A two-thirds majority vote is required to move into executive session. The vote passed.

### Return to Regular Senate Meeting

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- When we returned from the Executive Session, we picked back up where we had left off with Open Floor, continued below.

### Addie Clark

- Addie spoke to express frustration regarding two points:
  - The retirement of Sherry Himelwright, and the subsequent failed search, which leaves the chain of command unclear during the move from Boivin Hall, which includes the necessary disposal of chemical waste.
  - The move of the chemistry labs out of Boivin Hall.
    - This is a significant project in and of itself, to make it possible to continue to offer chemistry courses that students in nearly every major on the Klamath Falls campus are required to take.
      - While Boivin is being renovated, all of these courses are being consolidated into one lab space for the ensuing two year period.
    - The current expectation is that the labs be moved out of Boivin by the end of June, to be moved into the CEET in September.
    - The chemistry faculty have been directed to handle this move themselves, in order to make the move “cost-effective.”
    - Since this was discussed at the April meeting of Faculty Senate, several plans were proposed, and all have fallen through.
      - Chemistry faculty are willing to get the job done in spite of the challenges, but they need a concrete plan in order to do it.
- Seth Anthony spoke up in support of Addie, to say that Chemistry faculty have been trying to make plans for this move since the day that the Boivin remodel was announced. Now, there continues to be no concrete plan, but time is running out.
- Cristina asked if anyone from the administration would be willing to speak to the concerns that Addie and Seth expressed.
  - Dr. Mott responded to say that there may be new hires in Facilities who would start no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>. In the meantime, they are looking for someone with the appropriate experience who can fill in temporarily. Erin Foley was supposed to meet with Ken Usher and Addie about this earlier today.
    - Addie said that this meeting happened, but it did not result in any new guidance.
  - Dan Peterson spoke to Addie’s frustration, and said he has also been working with Ken on a potential new plan, perhaps involving some relocation to Dow.
- Seth expressed again that the chemistry faculty have been making clear since the fall that there is no chemical storage location on campus except for Boivin. He is not sure if the faculty were not heard, or simply not believed. Regardless of the reason, he believes this planning failure poses real safety hazards for the campus community.
  - Dr. Mott said that she has been trying to help with the parts of the problem that she knows about. She offered to meet with Erin again and work toward a resolution.
    - She also shared that there may be a delay in the CEET opening, which would push the deadline for moving the chemicals back further than June 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - She said that she wishes that the chemistry faculty would have brought this issue to her attention earlier, as she believed it to be “pretty much resolved.”
      - Seth spoke to state that he found the idea that the chemistry faculty didn’t bring this issue up early enough “frankly offensive.” He also argued that an office move should not have to go through the Provost’s Office.

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- Dr. Mott suggested that she, the chemists, and Dean Peterson meet ASAP to discuss a solution to this problem.
  - Seth suggested that Dan and Ken know the involved parties who should be included in this future meeting.
    - Dan spoke to thank the chemistry faculty and Addie for their work so far and echoed the Provost’s suggestion for another meeting.
      - Addie clarified that the person the chemistry faculty spoke to initially was Thom Darrah, who gave them the idea that the job of moving would come down to the faculty.
- Vanessa expressed frustration that any Oregon Tech faculty have to go to such lengths in order to get a meaningful response to their concerns. She stated that this could have been avoided or addressed earlier and better.

### Vanessa Bennett

- Vanessa heard from a colleague who is concerned about summer contracts: when we will know about them, and when will details be available?

### Terri Torres

- Terri also spoke in support of Addie’s, Seth’s, and Vanessa’s sentiments. She explained that the Math department has also been facing an issue with remedial math since fall that they have been unable to collaborate with administration to solve. She sees this as a serious communication problem that hurts everyone involved.
- Terri also asked when she will find out about the location of her office in the fall, if it cannot be in Boivin because of the renovation nor in the CEET because of delayed construction.
  - She finds this indicative of “this lack of communication, and lack of leadership.”
  - Dr. Mott clarified that she just heard about the CEET delay today, so she has passed on all she knows so far.

### Cristina Negoita

- Cristina followed up on Vanessa’s previous question regarding summer contracts.
  - Dr. Mott said that they waited to move on summer contracts until the CBA was ratified. Now that that has happened, she will be working on the summer contracts.

### Terri Torres

- Dr. Mott responded to Terri’s earlier concern by stating that the remedial math issue will be discussed and resolved in a meeting scheduled for next week.
- Terri followed up on Vanessa’s other earlier question regarding the status of the Testing Center in the fall.
  - Dr. Mott expressed confusion over what Testing Center services were missing that faculty want to see reinstated. She directed Terri to Erin Foley for future Student Services questions.
    - Cristina pointed out that, in theory at least, the Provost is supposed to be faculty’s representative, so what is the appropriate chain of communication for Faculty Senate expressing a concern to Student Services if it isn’t through the Provost?
      - Dr. Mott asked if faculty were willing to see a position cut in order to fund a Testing Center position.

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- Dan said he would follow up with Erin.
- Cristina wondered if any of the COVID monies that the university has received could be directed toward a Testing Center hire.
  - Dr. Mott says no, because those funds are not for ongoing expenses like new hires.

### Report of the Provost – Dr. Joanna Mott

- Dr. Mott expressed confusion about what faculty want to see reinstated at the Testing Center; reach out to her if you have input.
- In response to Monica’s Open Floor item, the Provost requested that Monica inform her of the specific changes that have been made to Canvas, so she can meet with Carrie and Christine to address those changes.
- We are getting “quite a bit of money” coming in as a result of the third round of COVID funding. Half of it is for students. If you have ideas for what this money could be used for, pass that input on to the Deans.
- There is outstanding funding for gear that was supposed to be sent out in September, but was not. This money (\$73,000) has to be spent by October and is intended for improving equity and access during COVID for distance learners. If you have ideas for items, send an email to the Deans.
- The Provost’s Office is still looking for input on Convocation, so send any ideas you have to Paul Titus.
- Summer Creativity Grant award letters went out yesterday. They went out to the faculty members, and will go to the chairs soon.
- The Academic Affairs budget has been cut slightly.
- AVP positions in Faculty Relations and Academic Excellence have been filled.
- Questions?
  - Terri asked who students should contact to secure COVID funds for themselves.
    - Dr. Mott said that an email covering this will go out to students directly by Student Affairs and Financial Aid.
  - Terri also asked who is in charge of allocating the COVID money.
    - Dr. Mott said that there are two groups working to make these decisions about the third installment of COVID funds.
      - These groups include John Harman, the Provost herself, Erin Foley, members of the BAO, among others.
  - Cristina asked when the most recent chairs meeting (before the one coming up tomorrow) was held.
    - The Provost didn’t remember when this meeting took place.
    - Tom Keyser said that there was a chairs meeting right before the faculty strike.
      - Dan said that it was held somewhere between the middle and end of April.
  - Cristina also asked if there have been any Academic Council meetings recently.
    - Dr. Mott said that there was an Academic Council meeting in the winter term.
  - Cristina asked if Faculty Senate has representation on Academic Council.
    - Don clarified that Senate does.
  - Christopher asked if some of the COVID money intended for students could be used for things like tuition relief.
    - Dr. Mott suggested that if you have a particular student or situation in mind, reach out to the Financial Aid office for assistance.
  - Cristina asked about the \$400 million that the state of Oregon is getting for COVID relief: has there been allocation of any of this to Oregon Tech yet?
    - Dr. Mott said no.
  - Cristina asked if relief money intended for “one-time” use could be used for temporary hires.
    - Dr. Mott said she could ask about this possibility.
- End of report.

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### Report of the President’s Council Delegate – Don McDonnell

- President’s Council has not met, but will be meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- End of report.

### Report of the Association of Oregon Faculties (AOF) Representative – Mark Clark

- No report.

### Report of the Inter-institutional Faculty Senate (IFS) Representative – Lindy Stewart

- IFS has not met since the last Senate meeting, but Lindy wanted to bring up some of the IFS’s recent discussion around vaccine requirements at the various Oregon universities.
  - Southern Oregon University did a survey, and the results strongly supported a vaccine requirement for all staff, students, and faculty.
  - U of O has also put such a requirement in place. So has Eastern Oregon University.
- Seth stated that different universities have placed differing emphasis on consultation with effected stakeholders before deciding on a vaccine requirement (or lack thereof). He spoke in support of open communication between stakeholder groups at Oregon Tech before a final decision is made.
- End of report.

### Report of the Fiscal Operations Advisory Council (FOAC) Representative – Christopher Syrnyk

- In February, FOAC was asked to provide budget recommendations to Dr. Naganathan.
  - During the ensuing discussions within the group, Richard Bailey noted that FOAC used to have access to more in-depth budgetary information, which in turn allowed the committee to make better, more meaningful recommendations.
    - Thus, without this detailed budget information, FOAC is sidelined, in a sense.
- Dr. Mott reported to FOAC that our budgets should remain flat.
- John Harman discussed the nature of how budgets are modelled and built.
- Dr. Mott suggested that we brainstorm “targeted initiatives” that Oregon Tech could take advantages of due to its smaller size compared to other universities.
- John also pointed out that with the state funding model frequently shifting, it is difficult to build a budget.
- There was also discussion of the need for a Facilities master plan update.
- FOAC did submit their budget recommendations to Dr. Naganathan, on April 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - Within those recommendations was a request that more budgetary information be provided to FOAC in the future.
  - One recommendation was to incentive early retirement plans.
  - Another was that the university should pursue alternative revenue streams, which might alleviate some of the ongoing uncertainty around the state funding model.
- Questions?
  - Cristina pointed out that WOU makes its budgetary information available publicly on its website. She asked if we could build such a process into our budget.
    - Christopher reiterated that in the past, according to Richard, such information *was* made available, but currently it is not.
      - Cristina pointed out that WOU is subject to many of the same pressures as we are, yet they are still able to make this information available, clearly and reliably.
        - Christopher agreed with Cristina’s frustrations.

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- Don pointed out via Dr. Mott that the Budget Forum will be happening next week, for those who are interested or have questions for John.
- End of report.

### **Report of the Administrative Council Delegate – Brenda Campbell**

- Highlights of Administrative Council’s last meeting:
  - Heard the same presentation Erin Foley just gave to Senate.
  - Discussion of how to build bridges between various campus groups and improve morale.
  - Staff “expressed a weariness, and a desire to move forward.”
- Questions?
  - There were no questions.
- End of report.

### **Adjournment**

Don McDonnell adjourned the meeting at 9:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ben Bunting, Secretary

### **Charge 1: Review the current waitlist policy and make recommendations.**

- At present, courses can have waitlists added to them at the request of an instructor.
- Faculty are expected to “manage” this waitlist, which can be an additional burden for faculty, especially in the “off contract” summer months.
- Banner has a setting that would allow for “automatic waitlists”.
  - **Pros:**
    - Follows traditional definition of waitlist
    - Students receive notification they can register and set time frame they must move in before moving to next on list.
    - Faculty no longer have to monitor and manually move students
    - Students can no longer “jump line” when seats open
    - It is better “customer service” for the students
  - **Cons:**
    - It’s all or nothing – if we turn it on every class with have a waitlist unless faculty **opt out**
    - Faculty have been opposed to this in the past, preferring to manage their own waitlists
- **It is the recommendation of the committee that:**
  - The Registrar’s Office **turn on** automatic waitlists with 10 student spots per course and a 48-hour window for students to register when it is their turn.
    - **This recommendation was endorsed by Faculty Senate vote during their 5/18/21 meeting.**
- **Outstanding Questions:**
  - Can waitlists be turned off AFTER registration begins?
  - Once turned off, do we have to turn it off every term that course is offered?

### **Charge 4: Evaluate the student add/drop procedure timeline and make recommendations.**

- At present, students can add or drop in the first two weeks of the term.
  - During the second week they need an advisor AND instructor signature to **add**.
  - During the second week they need an advisor signature to **drop**.
- It is sometimes hard for students to get in touch with advisors, especially in COVID times when they can’t come by the office.
  - Registrar allows this approval to be an email, which can help.
- Registrar is currently working on the Course Substitution form being an etrieve document.
- **It is the recommendation of the committee that:**
  - The Registrar’s Office move the Add/Drop form to an online document as well to help eliminate need for tracking down signatures.
  - The timeline for the add/drop period should be changed so that add/drop is possible through 8 am the Monday of Week 2, to help allow for nontraditional course scheduling to be accommodated at all of our campuses.
    - **This recommendation was endorsed by Faculty Senate vote during their 5/18/21 meeting.**



# COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement or Not?

Erin Foley, VPSA  
May 2021

# COVID Vaccination

Purpose: COVID vaccination requirement or not?

1. Overview of COVID vaccine status
2. Oregon's response
3. Campus exposure
4. Comments in support of and against COVID vaccine
5. Timeline and process if mandated

# COVID Vaccination

## COVID vaccine status:

1. EUA for three manufacturers
2. Available now for 16+ years of age
3. Anticipate use for 12-15 year olds soon
4. Full FDA approval expected for one or more vaccines
5. Vaccine availability across the country generally; isolated areas seeing more vaccine now; Governor's initiative to get to BIPOC communities



## Vaccination is key to collective recovery in Oregon

Vaccination efforts can help protect you as well as our community. Progress in Oregon is measured using the following definitions:

- **Vaccinated:** People who have received at least one dose of any COVID-19 vaccine (Moderna, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson)
- **In Progress:** People who still need to receive a second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines
- **Series Complete:** People who have received two doses of Moderna vaccine, two doses of Pfizer, or one dose of Johnson & Johnson

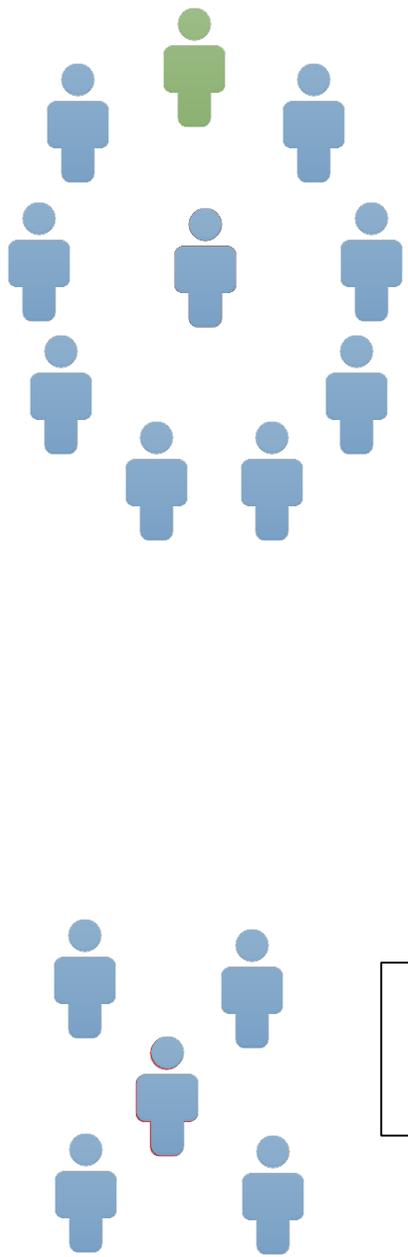
### Percent of adults (16+ years old) living in Oregon who received COVID-19 vaccine\*

#### Vaccination rates over time

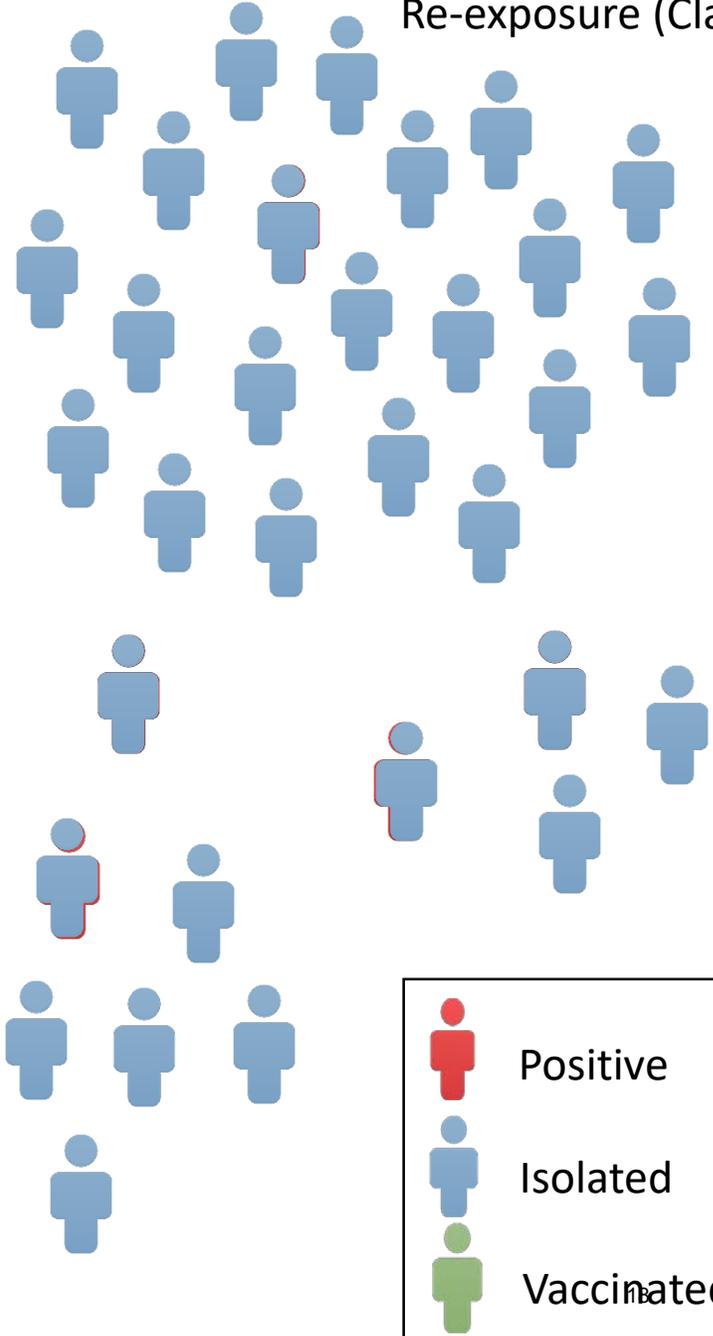
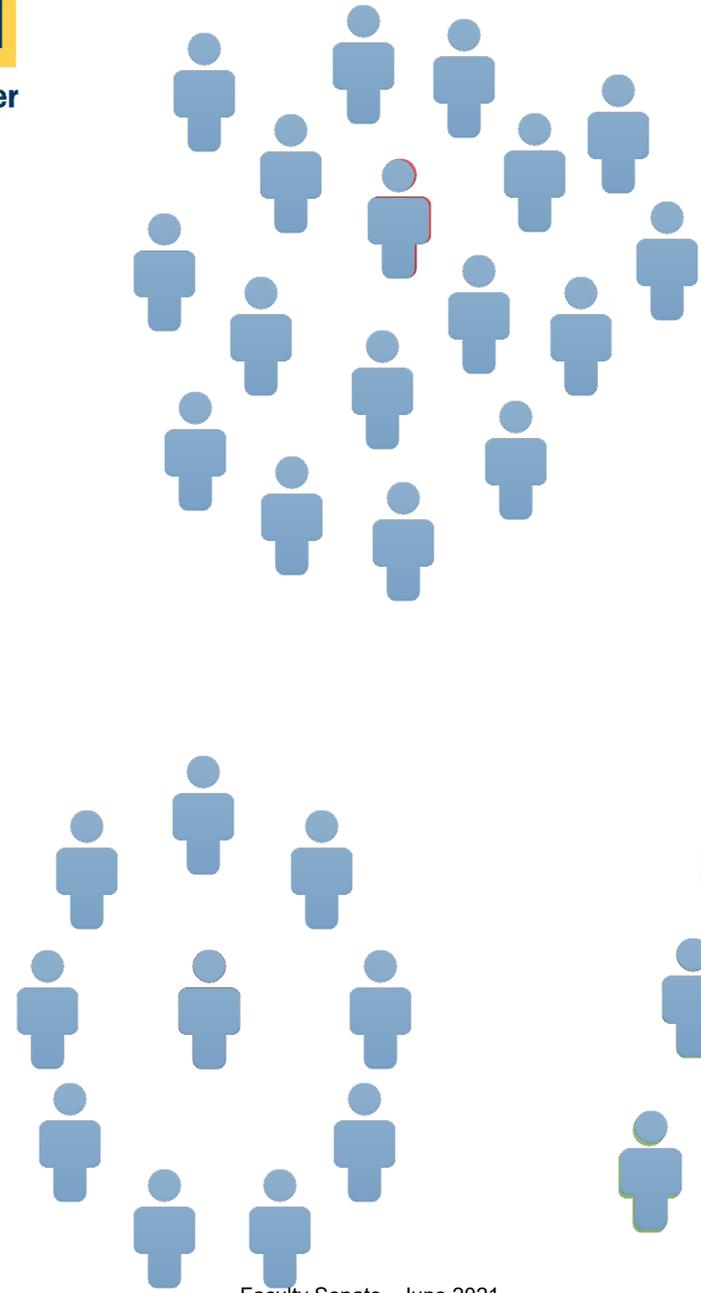
**58.9%** are vaccinated, 12.7% are in progress while **46.3%** have completed the series.







**One Week:  
94 impacted**



Re-exposure (Class)

Re-exposure (Movie Night)

	Positive
	Isolated
	Vaccinated

# COVID Vaccination

## In support of COVID Vaccine:

Vaccine will help keep me from getting COVID

Once fully vaccinated, I can start doing more

Safer way to build protection

Important tool to help stop the pandemic

Vaccine effectively eliminates the chances of death  
or serious illness in nearly all COVID-19 infections

Reduce disruptions due to COVID

Other?

## Against COVID Vaccine:

Takes away my right to decide

If I get COVID, I will be okay; don't need vaccine

Long term effects unknown

EUA status of vaccine; not FDA approved

Religious or medical condition

Other?

# COVID Vaccination

Mandated vaccine program would be implemented when one or more vaccines are fully approved by the FDA (or a deferral until then) and will provide for medical conditions, religious and philosophical exemptions.

Goal: a more fully vaccinated population to return to more “normal” opportunities.

COVID vaccine requirement would go into to effect for Fall 2021. OSU, PSU, UO, WOU have announced COVID vaccine requirement.

Provide any feedback by May 24 via email to [Erin.Foley@oit.edu](mailto:Erin.Foley@oit.edu).

Report of the Academic Standards Committee  
Academic Year 2020-2021

Prepared by Adelaide Clark, Co-Chair

Members: Hui-Yun Li (Co-chair), Sandra Bailey, Ryan Brown, Irina Demeshko, Janette Issacson, Mason Marker

Our charges for the year from Faculty Senate were as follows:

- 1) Review the current waitlist policy and make recommendations.
- 2) Review the recent decision to limit services offered by Testing Services and make recommendations for Senate action.
- 3) Evaluate the transcription evaluation process and make recommendations.
- 4) Evaluate the student add/drop procedure timeline and make recommendations.
- 5) Review the Academic Standards' report – "The Recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee Regarding Faculty Senate Committee Structure Upon Unionization at Oregon Tech" and make recommendations from the perspective of your committee for implementation.

We were also given an emergency charge on October 15 to develop questions for course evaluations regarding teaching strategies due to COVID.

Regarding Charge #1:

The committee met with Wendy Ivie to discuss changing to an automatic waitlist system. After discussion, it was the recommendation of the committee that the Registrar's Office **turn on** automatic waitlists with 10 student spots per course and a 48-hour window for students to register when it is their turn. This was presented at the May 18 meeting of Faculty Senate and passed as a recommendation. This was sent to SenExto to be passed along to Wendy and the Provost for discussion and implementation, along with two questions brought up in discussion:

- 1) can waitlists be turned off AFTER registration begins.
- 2) once turned off, do we have to turn it off every term that course is offered?

Regarding Charge #2:

During Fall term, we distributed a survey to all Faculty regarding the changes to Testing Services. We also communicated with Shaundrea Hirengen, Tanya Coty, and Jolyn Dahlvig about the changes. The summary of the survey results can be found in the December Faculty Senate Meeting Packet. The recommendations summarized there were:

1. Faculty need a clear explanation of testing services options, policies, and procedures. (An email had been sent at the start of the year and a reminder was sent at the start of Winter term at our recommendation)
2. Make the testing center available for all course levels, not just those taught in person, especially for students with disabilities.

*"Any student with an approved testing accommodation that is taking remote courses is most likely approved for remote delivery due to the fact that they are a part of the population of students whose disability puts them at an increased risk for COVID, which means they cannot or should not come on to campus. To*

*the best of our knowledge, Respondus is the software that the Online Learning Department chose in order to offer proctored atmosphere for remote/distance students." (Note from conversation with Testing)*

3. Reopen the Portland Metro Campus Testing Center for at least proctoring for students with disabilities.

*The PM testing center was closed in Spring 2020 due to COVID restrictions and the center was kept closed due to no in-person lecture courses being offered on the PM campus. Once the PM campus opens for in-person lectures, Testing will reopen to serve students with approved accommodations. (note from conversation with Testing Services)*

4. Reduce the seven (7) day lead time for submitting requests for proctoring tests. Add staff members to Testing Services if this is part of the limitation.
5. Make the Testing Center available for proctoring of makeups for in-person courses.

*On the Klamath Falls campus, make up proctoring is available for student athletes and other faculty approved situations.*

#### Regarding Charge #3:

The committee met with Wendy to discuss this process and discovered that the slow down was due to a change in software over last summer and that the issue had been resolved. No further action was needed.

#### Regarding Charge #4:

The committee met with Wendy to discuss the timeline and made a recommendation at the May 18 meeting of Faculty Senate that:

- 1) The Registrar's Office move the Add/Drop form to an online document as well to help eliminate need for tracking down signatures.
- 2) The timeline for the add/drop period should be changed so that add/drop is possible through 8 am the Monday of Week 2, to help allow for nontraditional course scheduling to be accommodated at all of our campuses.

These recommendations were approved by Faculty Senate after a friendly amendment of the second recommendation was added. It was forwarded to SenEx for distribution to Wendy and the Provost.

#### Regarding Charge #5:

At the end of last year, the committee prepared the referenced report, but due to the COVID-19 crisis, the committee did not seek to meet with the Provost out of respect of the unprecedented situation the Provost was helping navigate our university through. The committee decided to send the initial report to Paul Titus to give to the Provost when she was ready in May 2020. As this was an initial proposal for the Provost, we felt uncomfortable sharing it more widely until that preliminary discussion had taken place, but wound up sending it to SenEx where it was distributed to other Senate committees. The main findings of that report summarize a shift of unionized Faculty Senates into more academically focused bodies (i.e. committees similar to our CCT, etc), but we also provided some recommendations on how people get on committees and the number of committees at OIT. We are still willing and available to discuss this with the Provost or any other party related to restructuring, but did not pursue this actively beyond being available for consultation and discussion this year (which was never asked of us).

### Regarding Emergency Charge:

We were given notice of an emergency charge on October 15 to develop questions for course evaluations regarding teaching strategies due to COVID. We needed to turn them around by October 29. We were also advised that CCT was already working on questions related to this topic so they were also brought in. On Friday October 23, we were told that these would not be attached to the IDEA Center Evaluations, but be a separate survey, so with that in mind, Academic Standards met that Friday afternoon and drafted approximately 10 questions. On Monday, October 26, we were told the information we received the previous Friday was a mistake and these questions would be going on IDEA center evaluations this term. On that afternoon, Addie Clark attended a meeting of CCT and they provided edits to our questions on Wednesday October 28. Academic Standards approved these edits at the end of last week and they are part of an addendum to the November meeting packet.

The committee also recommended that whatever form this survey eventually takes, it was the recommendation of CCT to incentivize the survey somehow (whether that be a gift card drawing of some kind from respondents or having faculty give extra credit for filling out their evaluations (which is a sticking point, we concede) to ensure more students than just the ones who have a strong opinion fill it out and we get a representative cross-section of student data. This was not done to our knowledge and results from these questions were presented at a Winter Term faculty senate meeting.