

The Academic Master Plan 2022-2027 - the Path Forward

Joanna Mott

Provost and Vice President

Academic Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management

Board of Trustees July 15, 2024



Outline

- Background
- Implementation of Plan
- Charges
- Examples of accomplishments and progress in goals
- Discussion



Background

- Inclusive process
- Steering Committee composed of:
 - Students
 - Faculty
 - Department Chairs
 - Staff
 - Deans (HAS Dean served as committee chair)
 - Vice Provost
- Meetings and Open Forums



Implementation

- Approval of board
- Good progress in all charges
- Recent leadership transitions
 - Dean for Engineering, Technology and Management
 - Dean for Online Education and Global Engagement
 - Associate Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management and Retention
 - Associate Vice Provost for Academic Excellence
 - Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Relations
- Interim leadership in Health, Arts and Sciences



Charges

- To develop academic vision and mission statements
- To form a plan for fiscally sustainable growth through an array of innovative forward-looking academic programs – reflect mission, include hands-on, provide coordination between units
- Outline initiatives to increase enrollment, retention and four year graduation rates: 'Is Oregon Tech ready for students'
- Develop path for entrepreneurial applied research, inclusive pedagogy, service to profession broadening access, promotes student learning and success and enhances intellectual life of all



Charge 1 - completed

Vision:

 Through the efforts of academic affairs Oregon Tech will be the preferred polytechnic for innovative, multi-disciplinary education and applied research by learners across Oregon and the world

Mission:

 Through a sense of community, collaboration and innovative degree programs, Oregon Tech academic affairs provides applied hands-on learning from teacher-scholars who develop life-long learners and tomorrow's leaders



Charge 2: plan fiscally sustainable growth through array of innovative forward-looking academic programs

- Examples of implementation:
 - Goal 1: Deans
 - Identifying opportunities to increase graduation in identified areas
 - construction management, respiratory care, applied computing, medical imaging technology
 - Focus on developing new programs and certificates
 - 12 online certificates to begin fall 2024 using existing courses, more for 2025, construction management, respiratory care at PM campus, dental therapy
 - Goal 2: Provost
 - Restructuring functional units
 - Respiratory care → health science department to group health programs
 - Geomatics → Applied computing and geomatics
 - De-siloing of departments with cross-appointments/affiliated faculty



- Goal 3: Various leads
 - Annual department reports to be instituted this year
 - Annual evaluation policies, position descriptions being revised through AVP Faculty Relations, Human Resources
- Goal 4: Associate Vice Provost for Academic Excellence, Department chairs
 - Increased faculty involved in SoTL (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) and applied research
 - Require an applied learning experience for all students review of programs and planning to incorporate in any not currently including an experience, General Education reform will include a first year experience for all students



Charge 3: Initiatives to increase enrollment, retention and 4-year graduation rates

- Examples of implementation:
 - Goal 1: Provost, Associate Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management and Retention, Chairs
 - Increase high impact practices for retention
 - Faculty required use of Inspire software for advising
 - One year schedule implemented
 - New 'Coursedog' software for improved scheduling
 - Pro-active early alert system to mentor at-risk students
 - Coaching for stopped out students to return to campus, and throughout year
 - Reviewing advising best practices and training for all advisors
 - Advising office restructure
 - plan for refresher training for faculty, training for all new faculty
 - Increase focus on Academic Affairs student support programs
 - Move of supplemental instruction and peer tutoring to AA and expansion
 - Math lab established with faculty hire to oversee. Writing lab planned.



- Goal 2: Chairs, Deans, Educational Partnerships and Outreach
 - Review and develop opportunities for international student pipelines
 - Initial work has focused on current Finland connections. Next steps planned to visit e.g. South Korea (Dean of Global)
 - New summer study abroad full, with 24 students traveling to Scandinavian countries
 - · Global Engagement Coordinator recently hired to enable expanded efforts
 - Initial proposal from a China partnership, other MOUs in exploration including Cardiff Metropolitan University
 - Strengthen STEM education, K-12 initiatives, dual credit
 - Focus on increasing connections with dual credit teachers, direct connections with students, potential STEM teacher education at OT,
 - STEM HUB activities to become better integrated with OT recruiting.



Charge 4: applied research, inclusive pedagogy and professional service that broadens access, promotes student success and intellectual life on campus

- Examples of implementation:
 - Goal 1: Deans
 - Exploring opportunities for cross-disciplinary research centers
 - Advanced Interdisciplinary Research on the Environment, Applied Computing, Innovation HUB funded and being established at KF
 - Facilitate connections between research centers and curriculum.
 - Increasing engineering student opportunities being developed at OMIC, AIRE employment of students
 - Goal 2: Provost, Deans, Chairs
 - Developing industry advisory boards for each program/department
 - Deans ensuring these are in place and active for each department and for college level
 - Tech Village will increase connections with industry and provide opportunities for students and faculty



Goal 3: Various

- Enhance support for faculty interested in research
 - University Research Committee established and leading initiatives in workshops, annual Ideafest, reassignment request forms
 - Academic Affairs active encouragement of faculty requesting reassigned time for research
 - Sponsored Projects office hire of new business manager
 - Start up funds for new tenure track faculty
 - Federal fund applications supported success for multiple projects

- Goal 5: Various

- Assess entrepreneurial and applied research efforts
 - Department reporting on a research and creativity outcomes
 - Reported by Provost at AQ&SS meetings
 - Sponsored Projects and Grants Administration Office collating monthly proposal and funded projects to demonstrate annual increased activity



2024-25 plan

- With leadership now in place plan will be reviewed monthly both in AA leadership and Academic Council (Deans, Chairs) meetings
- Clear expectations on accelerated implementation will be communicated to Deans, AVPs and Department Chairs
- Progress will continue to be tracked by Provost Office



Discussion

• Questions?



