

Minutes

The Faculty Senate met on June 4th 2024, in the Sunset Meeting Room of the College Union (Klamath Falls campus) and via Zoom for Portland-Metro faculty and others attending remotely.

Attendance/Quorum

President Terri Torres called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. All Senators or alternates were in attendance except for Cecily Heiner.

Approval of Minutes

Terri raised a question about a line in the minutes on page five that quotes Dr. Nagi as claiming that we spend \$250 million on Shared Services. Nobody remembered the actual figure offhand, and Terri said SenEx would check on that.

Terri also asked about another line that reports that Dr. Nagi said the deadlines for future work on the Provost Workload Guidelines have been extended by mutual agreement to May 15th for the committee to get their report to the Provost and May 24th for the Provost to get her report to the union. Beverly McCreary confirmed that these deadlines are correct.

There were no other questions, and the minutes for the May 2024 Faculty Senate meetings were approved without changes.

Ashton Greer made a motion to move the Provost's Report to the top of the agenda. CJ Riley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Report of the Provost – Joanna Mott

- First, some not so good news. Enrollment numbers are up for freshmen and transfers, but we're losing so many continuing students that there's a projected overall drop for fall of 5-6%. Only 50% of freshmen this year have registered for next year. Chairs have been notified of this by Deans. The Deans have lists of how many students you're each advising. This is serious and involves all of you. All departments should get students registered before the summer. If this persists there will need to be substantial cuts next year. I know many of you do a great job, but please talk to any students who have not registered. Consider group advising. Do something.
- The Provost then talked about some upcoming events. The HECC vice chair will be here on Thursday and touring campus reviewing capital projects. It will be an opportunity about why we're different and special and need more money. IdeaFest for students is Friday afternoon, and Board meetings occur the following week. Commencement will be on that Saturday.
- For Convocation, please send requests to Paul for consideration.
- Summer Creativity grant requests have been reviewed. 14 proposals submitted with 7 that will be funded.
- On the search for the HAS Dean: Beverley is chairing and all is on track. Beverley herself heard that Parker has reported that there is good movement and the committee will have some updates over the summer.
- Michelle Preston has started as associate dean for HAS. She's located in Boivin. She got her computer today and should hit the ground running. The Provost met with her this week and discussed numbers and the work to do.

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- AVPAE Linus Yu is here and starting to reach out.
- The Provost wished everyone a wonderful summer to end her report.
- End of report.
- Questions?
 - Randall Paul: You said that there is potential for a 5-6% drop. Do you know how that is broken down by campus?
 - Provost: 9.2% in KF and up a little in PM. 7.1% down online.
 - Terri: Historically, have our students waited this long to register?
 - Provost: Year to year, this is the worst year for freshmen, actually.
 - Terri: I heard you say there are things faculty can do to help this, but I wonder if in your meetings if you have talked about what everyone can do.
 - Provost: Last week I would have said that everyone should make announcements in their classes. Dr. Stringer is working with VP Clark to see what Student Affairs can do. There are still issues with advisors not being available and students not being able to find them.
 - CJ: Is our acceptance rate being considered as a factor? I have seen many students this year who have decided to leave, more than any other year, and the trend for those I have seen is that they are not well prepared. Have you looked at that?
 - Provost: We need to look at the numbers to study that. I don't think that's the issue. But there is a lot that we need to consider.
 - CJ: Why don't you think the acceptance rate is a contributing factor?
 - Provost: Because we're getting a lot of good students. Admissions have not dropped their standards.
 - CJ: I've seen many students leaving, anecdotally, that can only be ascribed to underpreparedness.
 - The Provost pointed to summer programs as a way to mitigate this issue, but also said we can't carry on such programs without funding.
 - Terri: I think we should do some stats. We should try to find out who these students are, why they're leaving, and where they aren't prepared, if they aren't. We have tried to meet the students where they are, but sometimes that doesn't work. Maybe there's a possibility of a collaboration between IR and faculty to better understand the issues?
 - Provost: Some work has already been done on this. More will be done in the future.
 - David Johnston: What systems are in place for asking students why they might not return?
 - Provost: We have texts and emails, but many students don't want to respond and you can't make them tell you.
 - Riley Richards: You said we should let someone know if a student is not coming back you said to reach out to Dr. Stringer?
 - Provost: Yes.
 - Randall: I wonder if we know if students were passing when they decided to leave. Do we have that?
 - Provost: We should be able to see that.
 - Kamal Gandhi: Is the number as bad with the other classes, or are we retaining students who stay beyond their freshman year?
 - Provost: The numbers are bad in other years as well. They're just focused on first-year freshmen separately.
 - Terri: There's a lot to find out.
 - Provost: We collect a lot of specific data.

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- Bobbi Kowash: Do you take into account programs like MIT, where students sometimes don't register until they find out if they make it into the program, and don't find out about their program acceptance until late?
 - Provost: We actually take that into account because this is the same time every year.
- CJ: What are the advising and retention offices doing on this front?
 - Provost: They are working extremely hard. They are reaching out actively to freshmen and are sending out a lot of communications to students.
- Terri: We found out this week that we got money from the Sustainability fund.
 - Provost: No, we don't have the money yet. That's not correct. This has been a long process. We put in projects months ago and the legislators didn't like them. We had to submit a project that fit into Ben Cannon's little triangle (growth, reduced costs, DEI). Wendy put in for CourseDog and the Emergency Board has approved sending money to HECC for this, but HECC still needs to approve this and tell us how to access these funds.
 - Terri: What plans do we have with this money that will help this enrollment/retention situation?
 - Ruth Black: There are several subcommittees that are formed to manage these funds. There are four retention-focused projects that we hope to have opportunities to resubmit. I don't think we would have done this the same way in the first place if we'd understood the process then the way we do now. There are three categories: financial stability/revenue growth, cutting of costs, and shared resources projects (like IT services, for example). We are rewriting our project specs in terms of these new categories. Student retention will be cast as revenue growth, for example. Project one is reaching out to seven-hundred stopped-out students with a communication campaign and then following up with coaching for the students who re-enroll. We have a student success plan for all of our online students, especially upper-level students. We are also implementing a retention plan for our certificate students, and looking at retention data across students who move programs and/or campuses.
- CJ: When will the final Provost Workload Guidelines be available?
 - Provost: Tomorrow.

Reports of the Officers

Report of the President – Terri Torres

- I have asked for the stay survey to be broken out by faculty groups. Provost Mott is helping me ask for this.
- The Charter for Senate has not been signed by Dr. Nagi, but when it is it will be on the website.
- SenEx's list of policies to work on next year:
 - Faculty Safety
 - Academic Grievance
 - Tenure
 - Post-Tenure
 - Approval For Travel
 - Department Chair Selection
 - Academic Rank and Tenure For Unclassified Administrators
 - Nepotism
- Convocation ideas:

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- Research at Oregon Tech (including navigating IRB)
- Promotion
- New faculty training
- Assessment for all
- Tools for faculty when there is a difficult or dangerous student
- Goals for the Provost:
 - Scheduling and organization
 - Student evaluations
 - Department chair training
 - General education reforms
 - Academic plans for departments
- The Board meeting is next week, and I will be presenting there for the last time. Any suggestions, please let me know.
- On summer work: Yuehai will not be back until the end of September. I will serve as president through the summer.
- Already, faculty are coming to my office to tell me they are resigning. They are not saying people in their department weren't nice to them. The issues they're mentioning include: frustration with getting things done here, and with salary.
- End of report.
- Questions?
 - Vanessa Bennett: Is the review of the PTR process going to consider the question of whether a full portfolio is necessary or not?
 - Terri: yes
 - Matt Schnackenberg: Should we add the Faculty Evaluation Policy to the list of policies to look at for next year?
 - Terri: I'll add it.

Report of the VP – Deb

- This is going to be a long report. First off, I would like to thank Terri, and the Senators. I would also like to welcome new and incoming Senators who will join us for the next academic year.
- Academic Council met on May 14th.
 - SEM wants to see more faculty support at their events, such as New Wings.
 - There's an initiative to improve information flow between Banner and Slate so we can understand a student's status better at any given moment.
 - Advising and retention program being developed to meet students' needs.
 - There was a delay with FAFSA, but no indication that this has effected Oregon Tech students.
 - There has been an uptick in deposits.
 - Talk of a development of a chair group to discuss ways that admissions and departments can work together.
 - FOP/APE reminder: the process is taking place this term. Chair documentation is extremely important. Chairs should be mentoring faculty and keeping a record of such.
 - There is a spreadsheet coming regarding workload coming through Teams. The deadline to return the form is going to be May 31st. Beverly can review information with the chairs if necessary.
 - An updated faculty promotion policy passed and will go into effect on July 1st, 2024. This created a promotional track for NTT faculty. New TT faculty hires will have to have a Ph.D. (or a Master's in certain fields). New NTT faculty hires must have a Bachelor's or Master's in the field.

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- College Deans were asked to meet regularly with department chairs. Chairs were asked to meet regularly with their departments.
- There are two types of summer contracts to request: academic teaching contracts and hourly contracts for nine-month faculty doing academic/departmental work out of contract during summer. Chairs should request contracts for anyone who *might* work over the summer, just to be safe.
- Our first-year orientation (SOAR) will try to place faculty in front of students before the first day in the classroom. Online students can attend in person.
- Appointment letters should be sent within the next two weeks.
- On the Convocation 2024 schedule: September 16th will be for travel, and the 17th through the 19th will be for the event. The 20th would be for return travel. The program will follow last year's format. If you have ideas for sessions, email the Provost's Office.
 - Some trainings are required, and whether some of them can be offered online instead of at Convocation is being looked into.
 - All faculty will be trained on Inspire.
- The Provost mentioned that retention must improve.
- End of report.
- Questions?
 - There were no questions.

Report of ASOIT Rep – Ron White (PM-ASOIT)

- This past Friday was an end of the year BBQ for all students, faculty, and staff here on campus. We're trying to pursue more involvement with students when it comes to course evals. Also trying to increase registration and doing a registration drive. Last ASOIT meeting of the year is tomorrow.
- End of report.
- There was no representative from Klamath Falls, so there was no report.

Administrative Council Report – Carl Agrifoglio

- Carl is filling in for Kelly Sullivan.
- Admin Council met in May.
 - We recognized a new employee, a first-year advisor for ETM.
 - There was a training from cybersecurity about how to protect yourself against deepfakes.
 - The monthly kudos award winner was Elizabeth Stovall.
 - There was some staff feedback on how to better share community connections between the university and local communities.
 - There was an election and thus some new members of Admin Council were voted in:
 - Ashlie Pence
 - Dierdre Harlan
 - Some members were re-elected:
 - Carl
 - Carleen Starr
 - Gaylyn Maurer.
- End of report.
- Questions?
 - There were no questions.

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Reports of the Standing Committees

Faculty Policy Committee – Ken Usher

- We have been meeting about the tenure review policy but we have nothing to present today.
 - Terri: I'm disappointed.
 - Ken: I can live with that.

Academic Standards – Vanessa Bennett

- Vanessa went through her final report first, ahead of a report from Kamal.
- There were five charges to the committee this year and they have made recommendations for all five.
 - Review and potentially revise the Dead Week policy.
 - Our final recommendation on this is included in the June Senate packet. Ultimately, no changes were necessary; however, the policy needs to be better recognized and enforced.
 - Review and potentially revise the Final Exam policy.
 - Our final recommendation on this is included in the June Senate packet. Ultimately, no changes were necessary; however, the policy needs to be better recognized and enforced. There was language added to acknowledge differences between KF and PM campuses' Finals Weeks.
 - With regard to this and the previous policy, Academic Standards recommends that training be provided on these trainings so that they will be more widely implemented and enforced. Both policies should be covered during Convocation as well.
 - Review the duration and structure of summer term.
 - The committee's focus was on how to improve summer term. They researched and considered data from other universities to see how they do summer term. They also gathered information from our faculty, and Vanessa thanked those who participated. In the end, the committee recommended that we not move summer term to a ten-week schedule. Further investigation may suggest more changes.
 - Revise the Faculty Emeritus selection process.
 - The committee made a few recommended changes to the process's timeline as well as to the benefits that Emeritus faculty get.
 - Instead of the first week of March, the committee recommends that the Emeritus committee convene during the first week of February, to give them more time to work.
 - The committee also recommends that interested faculty be contacted in January.
 - Change one of the Emeritus "perks" from "office space, if available" to "access to campus room reservations."
 - Remove "permanent mailing address" and replace it with "permanent email address."
 - Change "secretarial assistance" to "office manager assistance."
 - Change "free lockers in the gym" to "free access to Oregon Tech recreational facilities."
 - Remove "copies of college publications."
 - Change "campus computer services" to "ITS services."
 - Remove "free Oregon Tech business cards."
 - There are two potential changes Vanessa wanted Senate's feedback on:
 - "Membership in faculty social organizations." What is this? Should we keep it?

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- Cecily Heiner: There used to be things like a faculty wives club; I know because I have cleaned out some dead people's homes.
 - Vanessa: Is there any opposition to removing this?
 - There was no opposition, so it will be removed.
 - "Voting privileges at faculty and administrator meetings"?
 - Vanessa: No opposition to removing?
 - There was no opposition, so it will be removed.
 - Revise the Academic Integrity policy with a focus on AI.
 - The committee came up with two potential policy versions to address this, and based on a previous Faculty Senate vote, went with the second option. This revised policy is also included in the June Senate packet.
- Ken Usher asked if Senate is going to vote on all of these policies. Vanessa was unsure at first, and Terri clarified that even with small language changes, we have to vote to approve the policies and then they have to go to President's Council.
- Cristina Negoita: What other institutions did you use for your summer analysis?
 - Kamal: Wendy Ivie looked at the other Oregon universities.
 - Vanessa: They were all over the place. You can pick your approach to administering a class during the summer at the other universities. We looked at 5- and 10-week options, as well as 4- and 8-week options.
- Riley (?) made a motion to approve the revised Dead Week Policy and Kamal seconded. The motion passed.
- Riley made a motion to approve the revised Final Exam Policy and Bobbi seconded.
 - Ken: What are we changing? I thought these [first two policies] hadn't changed.
 - Terri: There is a policy template that now needs to be used and we are voting on these policies in that new format.
 - David J.: When you were talking about this earlier, you said something about Portland Metro doing things differently. But there's nothing in this policy. I've always thought it was strange that there's nothing written down about how we handle exams here.
 - Vanessa: Riley is going to answer that.
 - Riley: See the applicability and scope section, the last sentence.
 - David J.: I see it. Thank you.
 - Ken: Should that clarification be in the applicability and scope section, or elsewhere?
 - Riley: It's there because that's what the template dictates.
 - The motion passed.
- Terri: The Emeritus policy changes have been described, but the policy has not yet been sent to you. Would you like to vote on the emeritus policy now, since the changes are minor and obvious, or do you want to wait until fall?
 - Vanessa: The only significant change we made was to change that one timeline item from March to February. We also made small changes to the list of perks to more accurately reflect what they actually get, but those aren't significant changes.
 - Ken: When you added email, did you mean just an email account? TechWeb access?
 - Vanessa: When we changed it, we didn't discuss this. We just meant an email address.
 - Ken: Did you ask anyone in ITS if this is feasible?
 - Carl: When we do give an email address it does have access to TechWeb. It also has an ongoing cost to the university.

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- Vanessa: A few of these items come with a cost (like a gym membership). That is the benefit of years of service and emeritus status at Oregon Tech.
 - Ken: I have a hard time voting on a policy if I don't know if it's possible.
 - Cristina: Maybe we should postpone voting on this until October?
 - Vanessa: Who do we go to to figure this out?
 - Terri: President's Council can figure the details out.
 - Sean Sloan: What is the marginal cost of an email address?
 - Cecily: I estimate \$60 per year or \$5 per month.
 - Carl: It's closer to \$15 per month and there is some further research we need to do to make this possible. President's Council would have to look into this if Senate passes this change.
 - Vanessa: Can we just get rid of this part from the policy?
 - CJ and others: would like to have an Oregon Tech email address after they retire to stay active/connect in their fields.
 - Kamal: The existing policy can't even be enforced without giving emeritus faculty an ongoing account.
- Riley made a motion to vote to approve the revised Emeritus Policy, and Randall seconded. There was one opposing vote, and the motion passed.
- Vanessa made a motion to vote to approve the revised Academic Integrity Policy, and Kamal seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Kamal reported on the results of the summer session survey. There were almost one hundred re-sponses, and he thanked everyone who filled it out. The main takeaways are recorded below, while the full slides are available on **pages 28 through 31 of the November 2025 Senate Packet**.
 - If summer term were extended there would be a large majority who are less likely to teach in the summer. 62% of responses agreed that a longer summer term would decrease the likelihood of them teaching. 13% of responses felt positive about a longer summer term. Recommendation is to leave summer term as is.
 - If greater flexibility or a shorter summer term were an option, there are more who would be willing to teach. Better summer pay is another motivator.
 - Kamal: A potential future charge would be to develop and send out a more detailed questionnaire based on this data, especially around the subject of more flexible scheduling that might entice nine-month faculty to teach during the summer.
 - Questions?
 - Terri: Within the context of flexible scheduling, did the idea of faculty teaching a full load in the summer and taking a different quarter off come up? I've seen this.
 - Kamal: That was never brought up, but is an interesting idea.
 - Vanessa: I want everyone to know that the current summer term is 8 weeks long, but a recommendation to move to a 10-week summer term last year started this conversation. If something *did* change, it wouldn't take effect until summer of 2026.

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- Cristina: Thanks for the survey. It was nice to offer input. Was there any financial analysis done?
 - Kamal: Not for changing things or for an increase in likelihood. Our goal was to determine how faculty felt about a change to ten weeks. If Senate or the administration is interested in looking at this further, that could come next, but we didn't look at that.
 - Vanessa: Wendy was on the committee too and she was interested in consistency in how courses are taught, but also thought we could have some more flexibility within that.
 - Ken: We teach some field courses that are 10 days in-person. Is this still an option?
 - Vanessa: Yes, Christy VanRooyen was on our committee and she brought this up. There's some challenge in terms of financial aid with that, too.
 - Christy: We discussed how we might offer a field course with additional other teaching within the 8-week timeframe. One concern that came up with this was how to make sure the class is long enough that students' accommodations can be established and met. There are also financial aid considerations when it comes to having a reasonable timeframe for a withdraw date. Wendy doesn't mind having multiple options as long as things are consistent.
 - Terri: I will take this and write it up and deliver it to the Provost for consideration.
 - Vanessa: I just want to thank my amazing amazing amazing committee. We all thought there should be continued conversation about AI and probably some Convocation presentations.
 - End of report.

DEI Committee – Chitra Venugopal

- There was no report.

Ad-hoc Committees

- There were no reports from ad hoc committees.

Unfinished business

Resolution on Shared Governance, Workload Guidelines, and Changes to Procedures

- Terri: We heard Dr. Nagi's response last month at this meeting, and haven't received anything else since.

New business

Randall Paul

- I have had some complaints from colleagues about IdeaFest being during Dead Week on Friday, which is during my class and other classes. Is that appropriate?
 - Ken: No, that doesn't sound appropriate. I have half a dozen students at IdeaFest and they were told "be there when you can and don't skip class unless that's okay for you."
 - Randall: I have had multiple students tell me they had to be at their booth the whole time or they would suffer a low grade.

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- Sean: Was this from our department? If it was, they are lying. We have team projects so at least one person needs to be at the booth at all times.
- Ganghee Jang: Our senior project is individual, so our students are the only ones who can staff their booth.
 - Randall: If I understand the Dead Week policy we just approved, it is not appropriate to have something like this during Dead Week.
 - Vanessa: This is why our committee recommended that all faculty more readily follow the Dead Week policy, so issues like this don't come up.
 - Sean: But you can offer major projects during Dead Week if given sufficient notice.
 - Vanessa agreed, but said that those projects shouldn't impinge on other class times.
 - Christy: I have seen at other universities when they have something like this that all classes are cancelled. If we're trying to build a culture of research maybe we should schedule it in this way?
 - Terri: Thank you for bringing that up. I'm sure we'll talk more about it.

Report of the President's Council Delegate – Terri Torres

- President's Council will meet this coming Thursday. They haven't met recently, so there is no new report.

Report of the IFS Representative – Cristina Negoita and David Hammond

- David H.: IFS had a virtual meeting on May 24th.
- David H.: The current IFS President stepping down, so there will be an election coming up.
- David H.: There was a lot of discussion about common course numbering, including a spirited debate about PSY course numbering. There was a concern that the common course numbering process might be being misused, such that some community college programs are looking to either a) have four-year universities offer more equivalent lower-level psychology courses so theirs would transfer, or b) have 100- and 200-level courses at the community colleges articulate as 300- and 400- level courses at the university level. This is a microcosmic version of the larger concern that faculty at four-year schools are losing control of their own curricula through this process.
- David H.: Also, there were many campus updates:
 - OHSU:
 - The Legacy merger is going ahead.
 - Faculty members are joining the OHSU Board of Trustees.
 - They're interviewing candidates for a new Liberal Arts Dean.
 - They're going to have a new Dean of Health.
 - A group of faculty spoke of a past agreement about carbon emissions reduction that OHSU isn't on track to meet.
 - At the time of the meeting, there was an encampment on campus in protesting the violence in Gaza.
 - PSU:
 - There's been a large student protest that ended up resulting in a large amount of vandalism at the library.
 - They are conducting searches for six college Deans.
 - A number of Associate Vice Presidents have stepped down or left.
 - SOU:
 - The Provost and the Interim Vice President of Finance are both new.

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- There's been a large amount of administrative churn.
- U of O:
 - There was a large student encampment, but the outcome was “smoother” than at PSU. The report said that the U of O Faculty Senate got highly involved and that that helped diffuse tensions.
- WOU:
 - Appointed a new Interim Vice President of Finance.
 - Implementing a new curriculum approval management system over the summer.
 - The Provost is floating an idea for a new class of NTT faculty.
 - Loss of senior faculty is leading to “a leadership vacuum” at Faculty Senate.
- Oregon Tech:
 - We're searching for a new HAS Dean.
 - We have a relatively recent hire in the position of ETM Dean.
 - We have a new Associate VP for SEM.
 - We have hired a new Associate VP for Academic Excellence.
 - We have a search in process for the Libraries Director.
 - NTT collective bargaining is underway.
 - As of the last Faculty Senate meeting, the administration hadn't finalized next year's budget.
 - Faculty Senate recently presented a resolution expressing a concern regarding financial mismanagement. The Board's response was to send the OT President to the Faculty Senate during their May 7th meeting.
 - The university is looking to make external Chair hires for a number of departments.
- Cristina added that some of the abovementioned universities have had to respond to encampments of protestors and that Oregon Tech has not. It was interesting that the O of U folks reported that the students themselves were careful about not letting non-university people into their encampment or to participate in their protest. The agreement that was eventually reached were shared with the students at Oregon State, and as a result their resolution looks similar to U of O's. The unfortunate dimension of the PSU situation is that police were involved, which escalated things. Cristina also talked about the damage to their library and the urban location of the campus as contributing factors to the violence.
- Questions?
 - Matt: On the subject of common course numbering, it seems like community colleges have a particular perspective that can be different from the universities and if it's a voting game the community colleges will always win.
 - Randall: No no, those committees are specifically structured to have equal numbers from community colleges and universities.
 - Vicki Crooks: In the committee I was participating in (communication), there was a strong push to make courses 4 credits. The community college folks participated more and therefore had louder voices.
 - Cristina: The way that curriculum ownership works at community colleges is very different than at the universities. At community colleges, the curriculum is the purview of the administration and they articulate it to the faculty. At universities, the curriculum is our purview, the purview of the faculty. This helped me understand why there is a tension in these conversations. The faculty at community colleges don't have the same authority to control their curriculum.
 - Ken: I'm on the chemistry common course numbering committee, but there isn't this sort of tension, although there are other tensions. I wonder if there should be a meeting

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of the other Oregon Tech representatives on these committees to hear how this is going, maybe a Convocation session?

- Vicki: I was emailed this list of the 80 most transferred courses and they are working down this list.
 - Riley: Does anyone know, or is there an estimated timeline for when this is going to be done?
 - Vicki: No.
 - Ken and Randall pointed out that the process is meant to be iterative, so it will just repeat (and review) once it's done.
- Randall: I would echo Ken that on my committee (math and calculus specifically). There was not the tension you're describing. The conversation was about 4 versus 5 credits. The community college professors wanted more credits to teach their classes effectively and to be compensated fairly. We felt we could do this in 4 hours, but they thought it would be 5. Someone is going to need to decide this.
- David H.: I can attest to the intractability of that as it's been described in IFS. I suspect everyone is going to bicker until the HECC makes their decision. Folks in IFS are sure that's an example of a loss of curricular control.
 - Cristina: To make it more hilarious there was conversation around moving from quarters to semesters. Hilarious because after doing all this alignment to be told, whatever, here's a new format for our year.
 - David H.: My sense at least is that's just talk that isn't going to go anywhere at this point.
- Terri: Thank you for all the work you do.
- End of report.

Report of the FOAC Representative – Dibyajyoti Deb

- FOAC met on May 30th.
- The meeting was focused on the AY 2024-2025 budget.
- [The text below is pasted directly from Deb's report document, which he read from to deliver his report. Questions and discussion are recorded below that, as per usual.]
- The meeting started with recapping the FY2024-25 budget planning process. From previous budget presentation and VP Harmon's presentation to Senate couple of meetings ago, the projected net deficit of 5.8M would be covered by using 2.5M from the reserve fund leaving 3.315M budget reductions. This would be a 4.3% reduction from each division. The intent was to cut 4M which would have been 5.7% budget reduction, and then reinstate collaboratively and strategically 700k that would be available.
 2. In one of the charts the FY2024-25 general budget revenues and expenses were shown. I'm quickly summarizing these numbers. For revenues:
 - State Appropriation saw an increase of 10.7% from last year
 - Tuition and Fees saw a decline of 3.8%
 - Remissions showed an increase of 29.5%
 - Other revenues showed an increase of 50.1%
 - Special General Fund Reserves showed a decline of 1.5%
 - The total budgeted revenue is a little more than 71M which is about a 1.5% increase from last year
- For expenses:
 - Permanent Budget expenses saw a decline of 2.1%

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- Salary recapture had no changes
- Special General Fund Expenses saw a decline of 1.5%
- Contingency Reserve saw a decline of 22.7%
- Administrative Salary Pool saw an increase of 370%
- Faculty Salary Pool saw an increase of 41.3%
- Classified Salary Pool had about 930k expenses budgeted.
- The total budgeted revenues came up to 71.6M which is about a 0.3% decrease from last year.
 - Rose McClure asked how the administrative salary pool saw an increase of 370%. To this, John's team mentioned that there is a historical trend of matching the faculty pool and additional one time adjustments built into that and an additional reserve pool if there is a unclassified compensation study done, so money has been set aside if there are critical issues that come out of that.
- One of the charts that was shown during the meeting was about Strategic Investments. The item that garnered the most interest was an allocation of 205k for the FY2024-25 for Tech Village Concept Development at the Portland campus. John mentioned that this expense is just for a consultant to assist with the development of that idea.
 - Mark Neupert asked if the board approved this 200k contract.
 - To this John mentioned that the board doesn't have to as it is a 1M limit that the president and the board chair is involved and is very supportive of it. It will be a multipurpose facility. It is in its infancy and at the moment it is a feasibility study.
 - Mark asked whether this facility is part of our strategic plan that was unveiled last year.
 - John mentioned that while the facility is not directly part of the strategic plan, it touches upon the various pillars of the plan such as pillar 3 - expanding capital campaign and leveraging those resources. pillar 4 - workforce development and increasing research.
- Also included in strategic investments for the upcoming year was 620k earmarked for DPT Permanent Support.
 - Mark Neupert asked the status of the program and how we are doing as far as expenditure and revenues are concerned.
 - Provost Mott mentioned that we don't have the revenue yet as we have had issues with accreditation. It will take 2 to 3 years to get to a full cohort. Once you have a full cohort, then within 2 years, the tuition will pay off the expenses.
- John's team then highlighted how the different divisions reduced their budgets. I'm not going into too much details about them, but the priority for each division was to have minimal to no impact on personal.
- In May, Senior Leadership presented most impactful budget reductions and top four prioritized budget requests. Then Senior Leadership provided feedback on prioritized budget requests through rating process and discussion. The final budget cut decisions were made by the President. The various divisions and their respective cuts:
 - President's Office - 6.1%
 - Academic Affairs - 4.2%
 - Student Affairs - 5%
 - Enrollment Management - 5.5%
 - Finance and Administration - 4.7%
 - University Advancement - 0.2%
 - Institutional General - There were no cuts, as these cannot be cut. There was an increase of 8.3% from last year's budget

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- Doing all of these reductions amounted to about 3.4M in reductions or a 3.9% reduction from last year's permanent budget.
- Provost Mott mentioned that the incoming freshman numbers are up at this point. She mentioned that we are bleeding with continuing students as lot of current students have still not registered for the fall. Retention is dropping every year, and it has again dropped this year.
- Questions?
 - Randall: Can I ask about the 300% increase? That's quadrupled? What quadrupled?
 - Deb: Last year the administrative salary pool was at \$114k and this year it is budgeted at \$537k. So, it's the increase in the pool that will supply administrator salary increases. It's based on the administrative compensation study.
 - Cristina: They do a pay study to determine the market rate for administrator positions. They do this by law, but they don't do this for us because the pay equity study in the CBA is not this. They will also do a study like this for unclassified staff.
 - Vanessa: And the university pays for this?
 - Cristina: Yes, they have to. Carleen asked already, and Sandi Hanan is most likely to know the cost of it.
 - Cristina said that the Provost's Office reported having to cut eighteen positions for next year in order to meet the budget shortfall. Cristina asked in response what the "opportunity cost" of not having those positions on campus for next year: she calculated on her own, and came to the answer of \$10-\$11 million tuition dollars lost by not having those positions next year.
 - Terri: So the \$205k for the PM building: where does that come from?
 - Deb: That's a strategic investment, so it's already earmarked. It comes from the general fund.

Open Floor

Terri Torres

- Terri: It has come to my attention from my students and people who I serve with that clubs have a process to spend their money that is onerous. It's hard for the students and their advisor. I advise two clubs and it's very hard to work with the individuals in SIB.
 - Vanessa: It's not just Terri that has this issue. Some of the individuals in SIB are recommending that clubs don't use certain venues and places in town because they are "difficult to work with." I think we're starting to lose some relationships in the process. It's difficult to hold events and even fundraisers in town because of this.
 - Vicki: I teach small group communication and the students do projects. What's odd is that there's a very uneven response when they look for resources. They go to SIB first, and sometimes SIB pays for things and sometimes they don't. Things like bringing tables out or paint for their signs, for example. The inconsistency is embarrassing, and demoralizing to students. I wish there was a more streamlined way for students to get support for those on campus projects.
 - Terri: One of my students was told you have to do such and such to spend "our money" and that's not actually the way it is. I'll meet with them (SIB) next week to see what can be done.
 - David H.: Was this just for KF or is this also for PM?
 - Terri: I haven't heard anything about PM, have you?
 - David H.: No.

Vanessa Bennett

- Vanessa: Thank you Terri for your many years of service.
 - Terri: I am humbled by all that you do. I know that I can always ask you for something. Thank you for letting me serve you and thank you for all that you do.

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Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

CJ Riley, Secretary (AY 2023-2024, original draft)

Ben Bunting, Secretary (AY 2024-2025, edits and additions)