



DATE: March 13, 2020
To: President Naganathan
CC: Vice President Foley, Vice President Fox, and Board Secretary Fox
From: Samantha Henkell, President ASOIT-KF and Stefan Valenzuela, President ASOIT-PM
RE: 2019-2020 Tuition Recommendation Committee

Oregon Tech's Tuition Recommendation Committee (TRC) met seven times, beginning early in January completing its work on March 4th, 2020 after holding four joint TRC/ASOIT student forums spread between the Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro campuses. The TRC was comprised of a broad and diverse group of students from both campuses, including those from different majors and residency statuses as well as faculty from both the College of Engineering, Technology and Management and Health, Arts and Sciences and administrators. ASOIT leadership was an active participant in the TRC. As a group the Committee communicated openly and transparently with each other and, as importantly, with stakeholders across both campuses through student forums and faculty meetings.

ASOIT, with support of Student Affairs and Finance and Administration, advertised TRC meetings, student forums and provided links to material and feedback opportunities on the TRC website at www.oit.edu/trc in order to facilitate student and community feedback.

During TRC meetings and at the campus forums the Committee discussed internal budget projections for upcoming academic years, tuition rates at competitor institutions, state funding levels, state mandated cost increases, university financial aid strategy and tools to reduce the impact of tuition increases on at-risk student populations, among other factors. This information was used to develop the tuition recommendation for the 2020-2021 academic year and can be found on the TRC website.

Though a consensus based process at its March 4th meeting the TRC established a tuition recommendation by reflecting on the principles established during its first meetings. These principles are as follows:

- Consider long-term factors when recommending the single year decisions (important to have a forward looking vision)
- Recognize the importance of affordability for students
- Tuition levels should be developed using data and information, including internal budget, comparator institutions, and external cost indices.
- Ensure we maintain the current service level, quality and support that Oregon Tech provides to students.

During the final meeting of the TRC it recommended a “middle path” tuition increases for undergraduate tuition in order to maintain the quality and strong return on investment an Oregon Tech education provides, ensure continued investments in equipment intensive programs at both campuses , and create the space for increased levels of financial aid to support student affordability and completion. The Committee’s recommended two possible pathways for 2020-21 academic year tuition which have roughly equivalent financial impacts to the university changes, in order of preference:

- Increase by 5% over current base tuition rates and tuition for set Health Program and Engineering Technology Differentials to 35%, or
- Increase by 8% over current base tuition rates and keep Health Program and Engineering Technology Differentials at 30%.

Under both of these tuition scenarios, the tuition differential for Medical Lab Sciences (MLS) would be reset to match the Health Program Differential.

For the university overall the TRC also recommended increases in remissions of \$150,000 for the 2020-21 fiscal year over the 2019-20 fiscal year remission budget of \$4.5M, as well as continued focus by the university on increasing investments from state and federal sources, including grants and investments from industry partners to offset operations and equipment needs.

There were certain considerations specific to each campus location that the TRC wished to emphasize at the tuition levels recommended above, these are as follows:

Portland-Metro Campus:

- Senior Leadership (Provost, Deans and Vice-Presidents) will be on campus more frequently and host Q&A sessions with students in partnership with ASOIT P-M,
- Faculty replacements approved during the 2019-20 academic year for Portland-Metro will move forward,

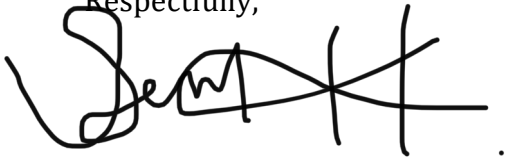
- Equipment replacements and investments in Portland-Metro will be in-line with its proportion of enrollment, and
- Student Affairs, Academic Affairs and ASOIT P-M will collaborate on a plan to increase access to student financial aid support services in Portland-Metro.

Klamath Falls Campus:

- Senior Leadership (Provost, Deans and Vice-Presidents) will host Q&A sessions with students in partnership with ASOIT KF,
- Faculty replacements approved during the 2019-20 academic year for Klamath Falls will move forward, and
- Equipment replacements and investments in Klamath Falls will be prioritized to keep up with the overall needs of programs.

After deliberation and consultation with students and fellow members of ASOIT, we concur with the Tuition Recommendation Committee's recommendation and submits it for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Samantha Henkell
President
ASOIT - Klamath Falls



Stefan Valenzuela
President
ASOIT - Wilsonville