Division of Arts and Sciences

Alignment and Budget Reduction Process

December 15, 2009

The Division of Arts and Sciences at Oregon State University is the intellectual core of the university. It is committed to delivering the promise of the land grant tradition to be the “public’s university” to the students and stakeholders of the new century. The complex problems our communities face, the integrated education our students demand, and the lifelong-learning people must pursue all require learning and discovery across the breadth of human knowledge in education, the arts, humanities, social sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, earth sciences, and mathematics. To meet this broad mission, the Division is undergoing significant restructuring inside the respective colleges and is discussing ways in which the Division can best advance the missions of its faculty, staff, and students. Through the process of this restructuring, the core values of promoting foundational research, scholarship and creative activity, outstanding pedagogy, and relevant public outreach will be preserved.

The initial steps of reorganization include the following:

Continue processes in College of Science, College of Education, and College of Liberal Arts for internal college reorganizations. The target date for announced changes is March 15th with a fall 2010 implementation date.

Creation of a shared environment of discussion about Division vision, goals and strategy that encourages input from and conversations among all parts of the Division. This includes engaging at the outset respective college leadership and faculty of the three colleges. Meetings among college deans and between college deans and chairs/directors of respective colleges was begun in November and will move to include all division faculty in January/February 2010.

We are also awaiting the results of the faculty senate task force on the BacCore, after which we will address appropriate Divisional BacCore modifications.

Division deans will offer a draft vision, goals and strategy statement March-June 2010 that includes opportunities and organizational changes that the new Division will offer.

At this point, because of the complexity of the ongoing internal college reorganizations and ongoing discussions about the relationship between internal and divisional aspirations, it is not yet feasible to offer anything but general targets. Those targets will, of course, be more specific as the process evolves in the early months of 2010.