



The Board of Trustees of Oregon State University

Regular Meeting of the Academic Strategies Committee

October 15, 2015

Guin Library Seminar Room, Hatfield Marine Science Center
Newport, Oregon

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Paul Kelly (*chair*), Michele Longo Eder (*vice chair*), Brenda McComb, Preston Pulliams, Sabah Randhawa (*ex officio*), Pat Reser, and Cynthia Sagers (*ex officio*)

Other Trustees Present: Mark Baldwin, Rani Borkar, Darry Callahan, Ed Ray, and Laura Naumes

University Faculty and Staff Present: Sherm Bloomer, Tammy Bray, Steve Clark, Debbie Colbert, John Edwards, Becca Gose, Jacob Hamlin, Sam Johnson, Larry Rodgers, Cindy Sagers, Clay Simmons, Patti Snopkowski, and Marcia Stuart

1. Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum

Committee Chair Paul Kelly called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. He requested the board secretary call the roll and noted a quorum. He announced that Trustee Michele Longo Eder was appointed as the Committee's Vice Chair. Kelly also introduced Trustee Preston Pulliams as a new member of the Committee, highlighting Pulliams' career in higher education.

2. Consent Item

a. Minutes of the May 28, 2015 Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2015 Committee meeting. The motion carried.

3. Action Items

a. New Academic Program: MA in Environmental Arts and Humanities

With the Committee's approval, Chair Kelly reordered the agenda to begin with the action items. Larry Rodgers, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Jacob Hamblin, Professor and Director, Environmental Arts & Humanities, presented the proposed master's program in environmental arts and humanities. The proposed master's degree in Environmental Arts and Humanities is a trans-disciplinary program, connecting other colleges in the university to the sciences and humanities. Chair Kelly asked about the timeline for submission of the proposal since the letters of support have 2012-13 dates. Rodgers said that the delay was due to the hiring process for a new director. Vice Chair Eder congratulated Rodgers and Hamblin, noting that with the implementation of this program, Oregon State will be in the forefront of trans-humanities/science fields.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Board the establishment of an instructional program leading to a Master of Arts degree in Environmental Arts and Humanities, effective winter 2016, pending approval of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The motion carried.

b. New Academic Program: PhD, MS in Psychology

Rodgers introduced Dr. John Edwards, Director of the School of Psychological Sciences. Edwards said that the proposed PhD and MS degree program in Psychology will focus on the application of psychological methods and research to solve practical problems in the areas of Engineering Psychology, Health Psychology, and Applied Cognition. Although the program anticipates admitting up to five students per year, it is expected that the maximum number will be capped at 25 students, once the program is fully implemented. Edwards noted that the program is intended to be a doctoral program with a master's degree component to be obtained en route. Trustee Baldwin inquired about a similar program at the University of Oregon. Edwards noted that the University of Oregon and Oregon State have a good working relationship in the area of cognitive psychology; however, the UO's research is directed toward cognitive neuroscience while OSU's is focused on application.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Board that it approve the establishment of an instructional program leading to a doctor of philosophy degree and a Master of Science degree in Psychology, effective fall 2016, pending approval of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The motion carried.

c. New Academic Program: MAT in Athletic Training

Tammy Bray, Dean, College of Public Health and Human Sciences, introduced Sam Johnson, clinical assistant professor, School of Biological and Population Health Sciences. Johnson said that Oregon State is the only university in Oregon to offer a program in kinesiology, with over 1,000 students enrolled in the program. The proposed M.A.T. program will replace the existing undergraduate degree program in athletic training. During the discussion, Johnson said that no student would be dropped from or otherwise adversely affected by the discontinuation of the present athletic training education program.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Board that it approve the establishment of an instructional program leading to a professional master's degree in Athletic Training, effective summer term 2016, pending approval of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The motion carried.

4. Provost's Report

Provost Randhawa provided an update on Engineering and Technology Industry Council (ETIC) funding. Under the recent HECC revision of the funding, OSU will have slightly less funding but the funds will be more stable going forward. The Oregon Talent Council, which includes both universities and community colleges, will replace ETIC, and HECC is

committed to continuing its support. Randhawa also mentioned that the university is currently working on its response to HECC's evaluation framework and data for OSU.

5. Action Items (Continued)

a. 2016 Committee Work Plan

Chair Kelly began the conversation by directing the Committee to the results from the board assessment survey. In particular, he noted that trustees expressed uncertainty about whether they effectively monitor the performance and quality of academic programs. The results also suggest that Committee members do not have a good sense of their role. Kelly also noted the earlier presentations on new academic programs were well supported in the documentation but he was unsure how to assess them in a broader context.

Trustee McComb recommended that, beyond reviewing new programs, the Board could also get a better understanding of the ongoing assessment that occurs for existing programs. Vice Chair Eder expressed her support for establishing a work plan but recommended the Committee take a hard look at its charter. She noted a number of policies referenced in the charter and suggested staff develop a handbook of policies that fall under the Committee's purview.

The Committee further discussed how the Committee might consider new programs and how it can fulfil its role to oversee academic quality. Following discussion, the Committee decided to table the item for further review at a telephonic meeting in the near future.

6. Adjournment

With no further discussion or business proposed, the meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Colbert
Board Secretary