



**Oregon State
University**

The Board of Trustees of Oregon State University

Special Meeting of the Academic Strategies Committee

July 8, 2025

2:10 – 3:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting held by Zoom

MINUTES

Committee members present: Stephanie Bulger (*vice chair*), Kate Carter-Cram, Roy Haggerty (*ex-officio*), Greg Macpherson, Julie Manning (*chair*), Camille Palmer, Irem Tumer (*ex-officio*)

Committee members absent: Román Hernández (*ex-officio*)

Other trustees present: Kassy Bonanno, Susan Clark, Lisa Hale, Grant Kitamura, Elise McClure, Marlena (MJ) Mirho, Jayathi Murthy

University staff present: Scott Ashford, Jackie Bangs, Tim Carroll, Eleanor Feingold, Alix Gitelman, Becca Gose, Carla Ho‘ā, Jen Humphreys, Stacy Jeffries

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

Committee Chair Julie Manning called the meeting to order at 2:28 p.m. Board Secretary Jackie Bangs called the roll and verified a quorum.

Chair Manning welcomed Roy Haggerty, the university's new provost and executive vice president, back to OSU from Louisiana State University, where he served as executive vice president and provost. Manning noted that Haggerty held numerous leadership positions at OSU, including dean of the College of Science; interim dean of the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences; and associate vice president for research.

Manning also thanked Belinda Batten for her exceptional leadership and guidance as interim provost and executive vice president.

2. Consent agenda

a. Minutes of the May 8, 2025, Academic Strategies Committee Meeting

Committee Chair Manning sought a motion to approve the consent agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Macpherson, seconded by Trustee Palmer and approved by all committee members in attendance: Committee Vice Chair Bulger, Trustee Carter-Cram, Trustee Macpherson, Committee Chair Manning and Trustee Palmer. The motion carried.

3. Action items

a. New Academic Program: B.S. in Data Science (OSU Corvallis)

Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Alix Gitelman and Dean of the College of Science Eleanor Feingold provided information on the proposed Bachelor of Science in Data Science.

Gitelman emphasized that two of the three new academic programs on today's agenda – the B.S. in Data Science and the B.S. in Sports Business – were part of OSU's "30x30" strategy for increasing online enrollment. She added that the third program – the B.S. in Computer Science – is an online option for OSU's highly-enrolled degree in computer science.

OSU Board of Trustees

Feingold gave an overview of the proposed degree program in data science, which will be offered through the Department of Statistics. She explained that the program is designed to meet rapidly growing student interest and market demand. She added that the program emphasizes both technical skills and the ability to interpret and communicate data-driven insights effectively, with the goal of preparing students to contribute meaningfully to science and policy.

She reported that the B.S. in Data Science would be launched as an in-person program at OSU Corvallis in academic year 2026, with plans to expand to Ecampus the following year.

Dean Feingold mentioned the program’s compact structure, which requires 75 credits for the major, adding that it was also compatible with a dual major. She emphasized that the program would promote campus-wide data literacy, since courses would be available to all OSU students and not just those in the major.

She mentioned that Artificial Intelligence (AI) would be integrated into the major, emphasizing practical use of AI tools to enhance data analysis workflows. She said she expects the program to attract many students and give OSU graduates the important skills they need for the 2025 workforce and beyond.

Feingold and Gitelman addressed the following topics in conversation with trustees:

Committee Vice Chair Bulger noted similar programs at nearby universities in Oregon and asked how OSU was thinking about competition. Feingold said OSU sees the B.S. in Data Science as a core discipline that any major university should offer at this point and did not think of it as any university taking students from another.

Trustee McClure noted the interdisciplinary nature of the program and asked why it was housed in the College of Science. Gitelman said the decision was based on where the core expertise lies—in this case, statistics and data science, which are rooted in the College of Science.

With no further discussion and no questions from trustees, Committee Chair Manning sought a motion to approve the B.S. in Data Science. A motion was made by Trustee Palmer, seconded by Trustee Macpherson and approved by all committee members in attendance: Committee Vice Chair Bulger, Trustee Carter-Cram, Trustee Macpherson, Committee Chair Manning and Trustee Palmer. The motion carried.

b. New Academic Program: B.S. in Sports Business (OSU Corvallis and Ecampus)

Tim Carroll, dean of the College of Business, provided an overview of the proposed Bachelor of Science in Sports Business.

He explained that the proposed program in the College of Business is a new undergraduate major in the field of sports and sports-adjacent industries designed to build on an existing concentration and meet strong market demand in a rapidly growing industry ecosystem. He noted that this sector is growing faster than Oregon’s overall industry growth, indicating strong career potential for graduates.

Dean Carroll said OSU’s program is focused on undergraduates and that the university currently has no plans to enter the master’s space for this field.

He reported that the existing concentration in sports business launched two years ago has already attracted 45 students, indicating solid demand, adding that the proposed major is essentially an expansion of this concentration into a full-fledged degree. He noted that the major won’t require

development of new courses, making minor adjustments to existing courses instead. He described the new program as a light lift with high potential upside.

There being no questions from trustees, Committee Chair Manning sought a motion to approve the Bachelor of Science in Sports Business. A motion was made by Committee Vice Chair Bulger, seconded by Trustee Macpherson and approved by all committee members in attendance: Committee Vice Chair Bulger, Trustee Carter-Cram, Trustee Macpherson, Committee Chair Manning and Trustee Palmer. The motion carried.

c. New Academic Program: B.S. in Computer Science – Applied (Ecampus)

Dean of the College of Engineering Scott Ashford presented the proposed Bachelor of Science in Computer Science – Applied for Ecampus.

Dean Ashford explained that the proposed program is a new standalone undergraduate major in applied computer science based on OSU's highly successful postbaccalaureate in computer science. He noted that the postbaccalaureate program has 1,000 students and allows the university to graduate more computer scientists than any other program in the United States.

Ashford added that the new major reflects a curriculum and learning outcomes that distinguish it from the traditional on-campus computer science program, with diplomas and transcripts explicitly noting the applied designation and providing clarity that it is an online program.

He said this would improve alignment with federal funding requirements, including financial aid and military education benefits, by facilitating smoother processing and eligibility verification. He also mentioned opportunities to expand into other specializations like AI-focused programs.

In closing, Ashford said the new program allows for more engagement, better assessment and more targeted learning outcomes while supporting meaningful program evaluation and continuous improvement.

With no further discussion and no questions from trustees, Committee Chair Manning sought a motion to approve the B.S. in Computer Science – Applied. A motion was made by Committee Vice Chair Bulger, seconded by Trustee Macpherson and approved by all committee members in attendance: Committee Vice Chair Bulger, Trustee Carter-Cram, Trustee Macpherson, Committee Chair Manning and Trustee Palmer. The motion carried.

4. Adjournment

With no further discussion or business before the committee, Committee Chair Manning adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy Jeffries
Executive Assistant, Office of the Board of Trustees