



## The Board of Trustees of Oregon State University

### Regular Meeting of the Academic Strategies Committee

January 28, 2021

Remote Meeting

#### MINUTES

**Committee Members Present:** Mike Bailey, Rani Borkar, Michele Longo Eder, Ed Feser (*ex officio*), Lamar Hurd, Julie Manning, Paul Kelly, Preston Pulliams, and Irem Tumer (*ex officio*)

**Other Trustees Present:** F. King Alexander (*ex officio*), Patty Bedient, and Darry Callahan

**University Staff Present:** Charlene Alexander, Jennifer Almquist, Anita Azarenko, Becky Bangs, Ed Brook, Spirit Dine tah Brooks, Steve Clark, Debbie Colbert, Becca Gose, Mike Green, Emily Ho, Kim Kirkland, Dan Larson, Megan McKenna, Carol Millie, Tuba Özkan-Haller, and Lauren Skousen

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

Committee Chair Preston Pulliams called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., asked the board secretary to call the roll, and noted a quorum.

#### 2. Provost's Report

##### a. Status Report: New and Existing Academic Program Reviews and Professional Accreditations in Progress

Provost and Executive Vice President Ed Feser began with an update on searches underway, noting that the searches for the deans in the colleges of Business and Education are in the final stages. He reported that the university would be doing the first comprehensive review of the shared responsibility model since it was implemented in FY2019. He said the intent would be to look at how well the model is functioning. Feser provided an enrollment management update for winter term and reported that early signs for fall 2021 are positive. He added that OSU had joined the Western Undergraduate Exchange, which provides nonresident tuition savings to eligible students. Feser reported that OSU had joined the National Academies' Action Collaborative on preventing sexual harassment in higher education and the Public Voices Fellowship program, which has the goal of enabling a more diverse set of thinkers to contribute to important public discourse. He provided updates on the university's internationalization and global engagement strategy, a peer teaching resource and support program for instructional faculty, and efforts by the Statewide Provosts Council that could lead to a smoother transfer process between community colleges and universities. He spoke about continued efforts to revise the Baccalaureate Core and provided an update on the Racism and Antiracism Curriculum Task Force. Feser reported that construction on the Gladys Valley Marine Studies Building is complete and the Marine Studies undergraduate degree is now accepting students. He spoke about searches underway to fill two new positions in Counseling and Psychological Services, one focused on Black student health and wellness and a second focused on Native and Indigenous student health and wellness. Feser concluded with updates on information technology and employee and labor relations.

Discussion following the report covered a video by faculty and students in the School of Writing, Literature, and Film on inaugural poet Amanda Gorman and the new lease for PacWave South and the potential the facility presents for the coastal economy.

### **3. Consent Agenda**

#### **a. Minutes of the October 14, 2020 Academic Strategies Committee Meeting**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020, Academic Strategies Committee meeting. The motion carried.

### **4. Discussion Items**

#### **a. Sexual harassment and violence education, prevention, and response, including risk management report**

Pulliams invited President F. King Alexander, Executive Director of Equal Opportunity and Access Kim Kirkland, Vice Provost for Student Affairs Dan Larson, Director of Equal Opportunity Investigations Becky Bangs, and Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards Carol Millie to present this item. Alexander began by noting that sexual harassment and violence education, prevention, and response continues to be a top priority for OSU. He noted that nearly all OSU employees are considered “responsible employees” and must immediately report any allegation of sexual misconduct to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (EOA). Alexander added that when reports of sexual misconduct or harassment are brought to the university’s attention by contacting EOA, the report will be taken seriously. Kirkland began with an update on education, training, and response improvements. Larson highlighted several outreach and education efforts, noting an emphasis on building capacity in the application of trauma informed practices. He added that the Community Wellness, Education, and Safety network is an important component of sexual assault prevention and response, and it will support a coordinated and comprehensive university crisis response. Bangs and Mille discussed the implementation of the U.S. Department of Education’s new Title IX regulations that went into effect in August 2020. They summarized the changes and OSU’s process for adapting to the new regulations. Bangs noted that OSU’s sexual misconduct policy remains substantively unchanged and that the responsible employee policy is still in effect. Bangs and Millie summarized trends during the pandemic and discussed how services had been adapted for remote delivery. Kirkland concluded by noting that further changes to Title IX would be likely under President Biden, adding that OSU would adhere to federal regulations while continuing its long history of addressing sexual misconduct and providing support resources.

Following the report, Pulliams expressed appreciation for the university’s proactive approach. Trustee Lamar Hurd asked whether sexual assault prevention training could be made mandatory, and Millie said that university partners continue to work to increase compliance for undergraduate and graduate students and continue to work to expand training efforts.

#### **b. Extension and Engagement Briefing**

Pulliams asked Interim Vice Provost for Outreach and Engagement Anita Azarenko; Outdoor School Research, Evaluation, and Assessment Coordinator



Spirit Dine'tah Brooks; and OSU Open Campus Education Coordinator Megan Deane McKenna to present this item. Azarenko shared highlights of extension and engagement activities over the year, noting in particular ways that OSU Extension adapted to address emerging needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic and wildfires. She spoke about ongoing and new work and initiatives for the coming year, including supporting greater coordination for statewide emergency response and creating and working with state and federal partners around broadband access. Azarenko then invited Brooks and McKenna to discuss ways that the Division of Extension and Engagement is contributing to inclusive excellence and the university's role in college access through its youth-serving programs and through the lens of equity and inclusion. Brooks provided an overview of Outdoor School and spoke about the fundamentals of curricula development through the program's equity lens. McKenna provided an overview of Open Campus and childcare programming on the north coast. Following the report, trustees thanked staff for their leadership and service to the university and broader communities.

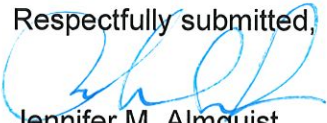
**c. Research Briefing**

Pulliams asked Vice President for Research Irem Tumer; Associate Vice President for Research Administration and Development Tuba Özkan-Haller; Director of the Linus Pauling Institute Emily Ho; and Distinguished Professor of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences Ed Brook to present this item. Tumer began by saying the focus of the presentation would be the need for OSU to support and grow the research enterprise and, in particular, to position the university for success in pursuing new opportunities in the areas of climate science and health sciences. She introduced Ho and Brooks, two faculty members with research expertise in these areas, and said she and Özkan-Haller would help facilitate the discussion. The discussion covered how to position OSU to be successful in securing new funding opportunities, how to develop agency-specific strategies, and how to position the university and researchers to pursue large interdisciplinary grants. Panelists and trustees also discussed how to leverage existing strengths in health sciences and climate science, especially in anticipation of the research priorities of the new federal administration. In conclusion, Pulliams thanked panelists and said it was exciting to both hear about current efforts and think about the potential to further OSU's research enterprise.

**5. Adjournment**

With no further business proposed, Chair Pulliams adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer M. Almquist  
Assistant Board Secretary