The Board of Trustees of Oregon State University

Regular Meeting of the Executive & Audit Committee
April 1, 2021
Remote Meeting

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Rani Borkar (chair), Patty Bedient, Julia Brim-Edwards, Ed Feser (ex officio), Preston Pulliams, and Kirk Schueler (vice chair)

Other Trustees Present: Mike Bailey, Darry Callahan, Michele Longo Eder, Paul Kelly, and Julie Manning

University Staff Present: Jennifer Almquist, Shanon Anderson, Andrea Ballinger, Debbie Colbert, Becca Gose, Mike Green, Dan Larson, Lauren Skousen, and Patti Snopkowski

1. Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum
   Committee Chair Rani Borkar called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., asked the board secretary to call the roll, and noted a quorum. Borkar then made a land acknowledgement statement.

2. Consent Agenda
   a. Minutes of the March 24, 2021 Executive & Audit Committee Meeting
      A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2021, Executive & Audit Committee meeting. The motion carried.

3. Discussion Items
   a. Public Safety and Crisis Response Update
      Borkar asked Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Chief of Police Shanon Anderson and Vice Provost for Student Affairs Dan Larson to present this item. Anderson began with an update on the engagement among the partners of a cooperative policing agreement, which covers topics such as agency roles and responsibilities, interagency services, and emergency and non-emergency calls for service. She said the agreement was last updated in 2014 and is currently being revised to reflect OSU’s participation. Anderson provided additional detail about engagements with each of the law enforcement partners. She provided an overview of training underway and planned within the department. This includes training specific to OSU, which Anderson said supports inclusivity, culture and community awareness, OSU resources, and OSU expectations. She also highlighted some of the training requirements specific to law enforcement and public safety. Anderson added that the Department of Public Safety website will include a list of training for police officers and public safety officers. In response to a question from Trustee Preston Pulliams, Anderson noted the training and certification requirements for officers. Trustee Michele Longo Eder asked about training and mentoring for new officers, and Anderson described several field training program models that could be
employed as new officers are hired. She noted that the focus to date has been on hiring lateral officers, who are individuals currently certified as a police officer with a different law enforcement unit within the state. Trustees noted the importance of building an organizational culture consistent with the values of the university, and Anderson described the ways that the hiring and onboarding process supports this aim. In response to a question from Trustee Julie Manning, Anderson spoke about the status of hiring and said that officer ranks are growing and on schedule for fall term. In response to a question from Trustee Kirk Schueler, Anderson provided additional information about the process in place to review candidates, noting that a committee representing a diverse range of perspectives is involved in screening applicants.

Anderson spoke about the status of the Department of Public Safety’s complaint process and said a complaint form is now available online. Anderson added that the complaint form and other feedback can be provided in a number of formats. Borkar asked about the anticipated timeline to resolve complaints, and Anderson said resolution times may vary depending on the nature and complexity of the complaint, adding that each complaint will be resolved in a timely and thorough manner and with regular communication to those involved. Schueler asked about options to raise complaints external to the Department of Public Safety, and Anderson described a number of routes available that are independent from the department.

Larson provided an update on the OSU Community, Wellness, Education and Safety Network (CWESN). He said an aim of the CWESN is to help bring the right resources at the right time to enhance support, stabilization, and intervention for students in crisis. Larson described the types of situations that the CWESN would respond to and summarized the criteria that dispatch will use to determine the appropriate crisis response. He concluded with a summary of next steps, including hiring a crisis response coordinator, seeking input from the community, and building a robust team to support crisis response. In response to a question by Trustee Paul Kelly, Larson described what the process of crisis response might look like and how first responders would interact with each other in de-escalating and stabilizing a situation. Borkar asked about training for dispatchers, and Anderson noted that it includes a focus on crisis response. Manning acknowledged the efforts of leaders at OSU to collaborate with the broader community. In response to a question from Trustee Mike Bailey, Larson noted that the crisis response process would be the same for students, staff, and faculty, although the resources and services available to each group would vary. Borkar noted that it had been a year since the Board approved the formation of an armed police department on the Corvallis campus, and she said she appreciated hearing about the training being provided to the new officers and the efforts to establish required policies and procedures. She said she also appreciated the update on the implementation of the CWESN, which is an important component in providing for the safety and support for those in crisis.

b. **Enterprise Risk Management**
Borkar asked Chief Audit, Risk and Compliance Executive Patti Snopkowski, Acting President Ed Feser, and Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Green to present this item. Snopkowski began with an overview of the
process for identifying the proposed enterprise risk management topics for 2021, beginning with an information gathering phase to review internal and external considerations and including the engagement of university leadership. Snopkowski summarized the six university-wide topics included in the proposed list of 2021 topics. Feser added that after action reviews of the resignation of King Alexander would likely identify opportunities to enhance the university’s capacity to respond to significant transitions in leaderships.

During discussion, Schueler asked about communications and crisis management. Feser reflected on the importance of identifying resource and organizational needs and developing the capacity to communicate quickly and effectively in a crisis. Trustee Patty Bedient remarked on the changing communications landscape and the need to adapt accordingly. Feser noted the value of having an enterprise risk framework to help units think proactively about risks and opportunities. Green added that important lessons can be learned from each situation that can further bolster the university’s ability to respond.

c. Information Technology Ecosystem/Security, including risk management report
Borkar asked Vice Provost for Information and Technology Andrea Ballinger to present this item. Ballinger began with an overview of recent updates related to the implementation of the university’s information security program, including the implementation of new tools and processes and the enhancement of training efforts. She said that progress on the university’s IT strategic plan continued; however, the pandemic and rapid shift to online teaching, research, outreach, and work had accelerated the implementation timeline for some projects. Ballinger spoke about trends in cybersecurity and noted unique challenges facing the higher education environment.

Following the presentation, Borkar noted the rapidly changing information technology ecosystem and commended staff for engaging in continual learning and adaptation. In response to a question from Bedient, Ballinger spoke about efforts undertaken by staff to monitor trends and anticipate potential threats. Feser noted that implementation of the IT strategic plan seeks to navigate the structure at OSU that includes both distributed expertise and central management, tools, and resources.

4. Action Items
a. Office of Audit, Risk and Compliance Progress Report
Borkar asked Snopkowski to present this item. Snopkowski began by noting that the quarterly progress reports were intended to provide trustees with affirmation that staff in the Office of Audit, Risk and Compliance are spending time in accordance with the approved audit plan and charter. She summarized audit activities since the previous report, noting a particular focus on conducting follow-up on audit recommendations, providing support and coordination for current external audits, and managing co-sourced internal audits. Snopkowski spoke in more detail about follow-up audits, noting that the purpose is to confirm that recommendations are completed. She said additional information on follow-ups would be provided at the May meeting. Snopkowski added that staff would be looking at establishing a practice of continued follow-up on priority
recommendations post-implementation to offer ongoing support to units and leaders. Schueler asked what actions are taken if a follow-up audit concludes that implementation is unsatisfactory, and Snopkowski spoke about paths for escalation. Snopkowski concluded with an overview of the upcoming required quality assurance review. She said that this is the process for auditing the university's audit function, which will entail a self-assessment report that will be validated by an external, independent evaluator.

With no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the April 2021 Office of Audit, Risk and Compliance progress report. The motion carried.

5. Adjournment
With no further business proposed, Chair Borkar adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Jennifer M. Almquist
Assistant Board Secretary