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**Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon**

**Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

**September 7, 2017**

**Committee Membership**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Connie Ballmer | Present |  |  |
| Rudy Chapa | Present |  |  |
| Ann Curry | Present |  |  |
| Allyn Ford | Present |  |  |
| Michael Schill | Present |  |  |
| Will Paustian | Present |  |  |
| Mary Wilcox, Chair | Present |  |  |

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC) of the Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon (Board) met at the Ford Alumni Center on the UO’s Eugene campus on September 7, 2017. Below is a summary of committee discussions and actions. An audio recording is maintained on file.

**Convening.** ASAC Chair Mary Wilcox called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Attendance and a quorum was verified.

**New Attendee Remarks.** Provost Jayanth Banavar introduced himself and his philosophy of academic excellence, interdisciplinary work, ambitious research priorities, equity and inclusion, fundraising and external partnerships, and nimbleness. He discussed the need to take calculated risks and to prioritize areas of opportunity and excellence. Professor Laura Lee McIntyre, a trustee nominee, introduced herself and her experiences at the University of Oregon, including her areas of research and teaching within the College of Education.

**Approval of Minutes.** The committee approved the minutes from the June 2017 meeting without amendment.

**Freshmen Live-On Requirement.** Roger Thompson, vice president for Student Services and Enrollment Management, and Michael Griffel, director of University Housing, provided trustees with an overview of the newly-implemented requirement that freshmen live in resident housing on campus. Griffel reiterated some of the underlying reasons for a requirement – notably better student success rates – and noted that the requirement led to an increase of freshmen residents from 80% of the population living on campus historically to 90% living on campus this year. Thompson articulated changes in inventory on campus to allow for an option for 2,000 students to live on campus (room and board) for a rate under $9,950 – a net reduction from prior year costs. Thompson explained that response to the policy was overwhelmingly positive, but noted that some frustration existed among families in which a prior student was not required to live-on campus. Thompson then walked trustees through exceptions granted, which totaled just over 330, most of which were for students who are otherwise living with local family (namely a parent). Trustees engaged in Q&A with Thompson and Griffel related to the reduced offerings, demand therefor, and potential cultural ramifications to varied offerings.

**Student Life Update.** Kevin Marbury, interim vice president for Student Life provided trustees with an annual report on student life issues and initiatives. He walked trustees through the divisional reorganization that began in 2016. He noted that there are five departments within Student Life: Career Center, Erb Memorial Union, Holden Center for Leadership and Community Engagement, Office of the Dean of Students, and Physical Education and Recreation. He discussed the philosophy of the division regarding student impact, engagement, and belonging, especially as it relates to greater student achievement.

**Fraternity and Sorority Life.** Trustees received a report on Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) from Kris Winter, dean of students, and Marcus Langford, assistant dean of students. The update particularly focused on changes within the office and its relationship with and support of FSL since the release of a report on FSL at the UO. There are 18 active fraternities and sororities at the UO with a total of just under 3,500 students participating. New initiatives underway include growth in staff support for FSL, a hazing prevention coalition, a police liaison program, improved standards of excellence, a Unified Greek Conduct Board, and a growth project relating to the National Panhellenic Council and Multicultural Greek Council. Trustees engaged in a number of questions with Winter and Langford, focused primarily on national and local trends, value added to the community through such organizations, and the student fee imposed to help pay for increased FSL support.

**Title IX Update.** Darci Heroy, associate vice president and Title IX director, gave an annual report to trustees on Title IX work at the UO, including trends, key observations, and ongoing initiatives as articulated in the annual report (a full copy of the report is provided in materials posted online). Heroy then updated trustees on a new policy at the university – the Student Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Violence Complaint and Response Policy. Importantly, Heroy recognized the trustees’ role as a designated reporter under the new policy and provide some guidance to them on what to do if a situation arises that warrants reporting or creates a question in trustees’ minds.

**Student Success.** Trustees received an update on student success initiatives from Ron Bramhall, associate vice provost for academic excellence, and Doneka Scott, assistant vice provost for student success. They discussed the necessary relationship between coordinated advising and coordinated curriculum in attaining student success goals. They also began by reminding trustees of the very disparate reasons that lead to undesirable productivity (i.e., not finishing, or receiving an unsatisfactory grade). They indicated that incoming (high school) GPA and SAT scores are strong indicators for first-year students − data which can help identify students who need additional support earlier in their career at the UO. Bramhall and Scott also discussed the importance of building the UO’s overall infrastructure to support success-focused endeavors, which has particular challenges in a decentralized environment. Scott referenced AY2017-18 as “The Year of the Pilot” due to the large number of pilot projects underway to test best practices and new initiatives. They also discussed key next steps, including increased support around data analytics, improved communications strategies, curriculum revision, strengthening academic support (such as tutoring, supplemental instruction, and the like), gathering more information from students on reasons behind withdrawals and registrations, and looking at campus-wide advising structures and capacity issues.

**Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.