Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes, December 2, 2015

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC) of the Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon (Board) met in the Ford Alumni Center on the UO Campus on December 2, 2015. Below is a summary of the committee discussions and actions. An audio recording is available.

Committee Membership
Connie Ballmer X
Rudy Chapa X
Ann Curry X
Allyn Ford X
Michael Schill X
Will Paustian X
Mary Wilcox, Chair X
Kurt Wilcox X

Opening. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Committee Chair Mary Wilcox. Roll call was taken and a quorum verified. Chair Wilcox opened by welcoming Will Paustian, the new student trustee, to the committee and provided a brief overview of the agenda. The committee approved the minutes from the September 2015 committee meetings without amendment.

Public Comment. There were no requests to provide public comment.

Student Conduct Code. University Secretary Angela Wilhelms introduced a resolution relating to the repeal of two outdated policies relating to the Student Conduct Code. Trustees asked questions to ensure that no substantive changes to the Code were being made, to ensure that no red flags were raised by constituency groups, and to clarify the difference between this resolution and a similar resolution proposed in September.

ACTION: The resolution was moved by Allyn Ford and seconded by Ann Curry. The resolution was approved by voice vote without dissent.

Sexual Violence Prevention Update. Vice President for Student Life Robin Holmes, Associate Dean of Students Sheryl Eyster, Director of Experiential Education and Prevention Initiatives Abigail Leeder, and Director of Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Kerry Frazee spoke to trustees about current efforts and initiatives relating to sexual violence education, prevention, response and survivor services. The team informed the board about programs to improve bystander intervention, as well as general education and awareness, including the use of theater-based workshops and initiatives. The group reported that anecdotal evidence demonstrates that these programs and initiatives are successful in educating students about available resources, improving intervention and prevention, and educating students about how to report incidents that occur.

Department of International Affairs. Vice Provost for International Affairs Dennis Galvan provided trustees with an update on three areas related to the Department of International Affairs – study abroad,
student population trends, and the Global Studies Initiative. Galvan discussed where UO’s international students traditional hail from, and what those trends in the near future may look like. He also discussed the high rate of study abroad at the UO and the work the university does to award federal grants to Pell-eligible students to enhance study abroad opportunities. The trustees engaged with Galvan in a robust discussion about how to improve accessibility to international opportunities and about the value of international exchanges and studies to the UO’s students.

**College and Careers Building.** Andrew Marcus, interim dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, walked trustees through some of the programmatic components of the college and careers building approved by the Board in September. He explained that the building seeks to be a central hub for teaching, research, advising, collaboration, and socialization. He emphasized that the building is “designed for student success” on all fronts – academic affairs, community involvement, and careers. Marcus also spoke to the innovative nature of the project from an architectural and design standpoint in higher education.

**The Oregon Commitment.** President Michael Schill and Provost Scott Coltrane provided trustees with an in-depth overview of the Oregon Committee, a multi-pronged initiative announced by the president in November to improve student retention and graduation rates. The committee discussed the overall need to have a central understanding of all success and retention initiatives to ensure efficacy, access and completeness.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 am.