

Committee Membership

Elisa Hornecker, Chair	Present	Jenny Ulum	Present
Toya Fick	Present	Ruby Wool	Present
Ed Madison	Excused	Dennis Worden	Present
Amy Tykeson	Present		

Convening. The Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the University of Oregon Board of Trustees met at the Ford Alumni Center on the Eugene campus March 11th, 2024. Committee Chair Elisa Hornecker called the meeting to order at 1:26 pm Pacific Time. (All times noted going forward are noted in Pacific Time). The Secretary verified attendance and a quorum.

Provost's Report. Karen Ford, interim provost, provided an overview of the afternoon's presentations. First, Ford provided several academic updates, including: on the transition of student advisors from Tykeson Advising to the College of Arts and Sciences, changes to the process on approving new academic programs, ongoing efforts to address recommendations in an external review of student support for athletes, updates on dean searches, staffing updates to better address timely issues between the provost's office and academic units, and updates on bargaining. Trustees engaged in questions and discussion on items including, but not limited to the periodic review of new programs once they are approved.

School/College in Focus: College of Education. Carol Stabile, interim dean of the Clark Honors College (CHC) discussed five ways the CHC supports its students, including: attracting high achieving students that enhance the university's reputation, fostering connections between faculty, staff, and students, courses are taught by award winning faculty, providing a dynamic curriculum, and requiring a capstone thesis project. Stabile then discussed several challenges facing the CHC, including: developing plans for sustainable growth, and the appropriate level of differential tuition. Trustees engaged in questions and discussion on items including, but not limited to the appropriate size of the student body to maintain the quality of education, support provided to lower-income students, percent of Pell- eligible students in the program, advising and career advising in the CHC, the structure of the capstone thesis, factors that influence the increase of differential tuition, and the incremental cost of operating the CHC in comparison to the general undergraduate program.

Cascadia Region Earthquake Science Center. Diego Melgar, associate professor and director of the Cascadia Region Earthquake Science Center (CRESCENT) discussed the center — a new \$15 million national science funded center headquartered at the university which includes six staff and 14 universities with 40 researchers. The center has three pillars: the science behind earthquakes and their hazards, connecting the science to meaningful, societally relevant outcomes through partnerships and development applications, and expanding access to careers through geoscience education and inclusion. Melgar discussed several society relevant problems the center is focused on addressing as well as detailed examples of various programs and research activities the center is focused on.

Trustees engaged in questions and discussion on items including, but not limited to the basic science of the Cascadia subduction plate, local community preparation for a major earthquake, the ability to continue to get information out about the risks of the potential earthquake, and how indigenous knowledge is informing research.

International Student Support. Dennis Galvan, vice provost for the division of global engagement reviewed university supports for international students. Galvan walked through three areas of engagement: federal visa compliance and sponsorship, belonging and flourishing, and student success. Activities include visa sponsorship, first point of contact, helping student maintain legal status, pre-arrival onboarding, short-term homestays, orientation, participation in an international peer mentor program, everyday advising and academic support, and crisis management and mental health support. Gayatri Misra, a second year student in architecture discussed the international cultural service program (ICSP) and the ways it benefited her as an international student at the university. Chiagoziem Adindu, a business law student shared her ICSP experience and how the funds allowed her to attend the university.

Trustees engaged in questions and discussion on items including, but not limited to the number of international students in the ICSP program, the cost to expand the ICSP program, and what drew students to the university.

Meeting Adjourns – 4:29 p.m.