

Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon
Meeting Summary | March 4-5, 2019

Membership

Trustee	3/4/19	3/5/19	Trustee	3/4/19	3/5/19
Marcia Aaron	Present	Present	Chuck Lillis, Chair	Absent	Present
Connie Ballmer	Present	Present	Laura Lee McIntyre	NA	Present
Peter Bragdon	Absent	Absent	Jimmy Murray	NA	Present
Andrew Colas	Present	Present	Will Paustian	Present	Present
Ann Curry	Absent	Absent	Ginevra Ralph	Present	Present
Allyn Ford	Present	Present	Michael Schill	Present	Present
Joe Gonyea, III	Present	Present	Mary Wilcox	Present	Present
Ross Kari	Present	Present			

The Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon (Board) met at the Erb Memorial Union on the UO’s Eugene campus on March 4-5, 2019. Below is a summary of Board reports, discussions and actions. An audio recording is maintained on file.

Convening – Executive Session. Vice Chair Ginevra Ralph convened the Board of Trustees at 3:05 p.m. on March 4, 2019, for purposes of one agenda item only. That agenda item was an executive session, authorized under ORS 192.660(2)(d), for purposes of conducting deliberations regarding labor negotiations with the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation (GTFF). Trustees received an update from Employee and Labor Relations (ELR) regarding current negotiations and engaged in a discussion with ELR representatives about bargaining related matters. Roll from the executive session is recorded above; the meeting was held at the Erb Memorial Union on the UO’s Eugene campus.

Recess. At the conclusion of the deliberations regarding GTFF negotiations, the meeting was recessed until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5.

Re-Convening and Approval of Minutes. Chair Chuck Lillis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Roll was taken (recorded above) and a quorum verified. The Board approved the minutes from its December 2018 meeting without amendment.

Public Comment. Following is a list of individuals who spoke and the general topic(s) of their remarks. Full remarks are available on the audio recording.

- *David Igl (Community Member, Alum) – Spoke about signage that was supposed to be installed following the renaming of Dunn Hall and against the decision to so rename it; spoke to area KKK history*
- *Louie Vidmar (Staff, SEIU President, Alum) – Spoke about rising costs of higher education, budget cuts facing the university, the impact on classified staff, and the importance of new state revenue*

Standing Reports. The Board received standing reports from the following individuals. Full reports are available in the audio recording and written summaries are in the meeting packet (Gallegos, Harbaugh) or on the President’s website (Schill).

- *ASUO President Maria Gallegos*

- *University Senate President Bill Harbaugh*
- *University President Michael Schill*

Tuition and Mandatory Fees. Vice President for Finance and Administration and CFO Jamie Moffitt and Vice President for Student Life Kevin Marbury presented trustees with an overview of the Tuition and Fees Advisory Board (TFAB) process, financial information used in the tuition-setting analysis, and the proposed resolution regarding graduate tuition, non-resident undergraduate tuition, and mandatory fees. Marbury explained the process used this year, including TFAB meetings, student forums, public feedback solicitation, and the information provided to TFAB and posted online. Moffitt walked trustees through anticipated Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (FY20) financial information, including anticipated revenue and costs. Moffitt noted that revenue is uncertain at this time, but presented estimates based on anticipated tuition and anticipated state contribution. Projections of revenue from tuition will become clearer after the advance tuition deposit deadline of May 1, and the state's contribution will become more certain after the legislative appropriation process ends (likely in late June). For now, estimates are based on projections and a proposal included in the Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB). Moffitt provided contextual information for trustees, including tuition and fee history as well as the UO's relative position among AAU public peers for tuition, state appropriation per student FTE, staffing ratios, and faculty-to-student ratios. Moffitt also provided an overview of the overall Education and General (E&G) Fund to provide context for the tuition proposal, and then facilitated a deeper look at specific major cost drivers—including PERS and PEBB, both state-established costs—anticipated for FY20. Trustees discussed the overall budget challenge anticipated for FY20, which includes a projected FY19 deficit (\$7.9 million), major year-over-year cost increases (\$23.6 million), and a state appropriation reduction based on the GRB (-\$2.7 million). They also discussed certain opportunities for offsetting this budget gap, including student population growth, budget cuts, increased state support, other smaller revenue sources (e.g., interest income or grant F&A returns), and—ultimately—tuition. This discussion related back to the president's report, in which President Schill discussed his plan to engage the campus community in a budget-cutting process for FY20. Moffitt then explained the proposals for tuition, including various graduate tuition rate increases and a 2.97% per student credit hour (SCH) increase for non-resident undergraduate tuition. Marbury explained the proposed mandatory fee increases, including increases to the Health Center Fee, the Rec Center Fee, the EMU Fee, and the Incidental Fee. (Details for these proposals are available in the meeting packet under section 3 and as a supplemental document.) Trustees engaged in conversation with Moffitt, Marbury, and President Schill regarding the budget scenario, the strategic investment process, salary freezes, budget cuts taking effect in FY20 and FY21, market pressures relative to non-resident tuition, national trends of decreasing public funding of education by states, and other key information relating to the budget overall and the FY20 budget in particular. Chair Lillis reminded the trustees that the resident undergraduate tuition rates for FY20 will be before the Board in May.

ACTION: The resolution to approve nonresident undergraduate tuition, graduate tuition, and mandatory fees for FY20 was moved by Kari and seconded by Paustian. It was approved by a vote of 11-0.

The meeting recessed and reconvened at 1:33 p.m.

Academic Area in Focus: Comic and Cartoon Studies. Professor Ben Saunders gave trustees an overview of Comic and Cartoon Studies as a field, using the history of cartoons to help make connections between the field of study and various disciplines, such as English, art, languages, anthropology, archeology, history, economics, political science, geography, and others. Saunders provided background information on the relatively new Comic Studies minor at the UO, discussing the courses, faculty, and high student

demand. He noted that the minor was organically developed by interdisciplinary faculty and is now home to courses that are among the highest demanded courses at the institution.

Economic Impact Report. Professor of Practice Tim Duy, economics, provided an overview of his recent publication, which was the latest update to *The Economic Impact of the University of Oregon*. Duy walked trustees through his methodology, describing in particular the difference between economic “impact” versus economic “footprint”. He explained that there are four primary areas of spending associated with the university relative to its economic impact analysis: direct spending, student spending, visitor spending, and construction spending. He also discussed why the UO is considered, in this analysis, a “traded sector firm” and discussed the multipliers and assumptions that go into determining the economic impact and economic footprint. In total, Duy estimates that the overall direct impact is \$1.57 billion and the overall footprint is \$2.23 billion. These are annual figures and reflect impact on and footprint in the State of Oregon. Trustees engaged in a discussion with Duy about localizing the analysis to Lane County specifically; how best to use the information, particularly with legislators and policy makers; and how best to extrapolate information when there is little data or data are more anecdotal and less quantifiable.

Seconded Motions from Committee. Trustees Mary Willcox and Ross Kari provided an overview of the seconded motions which came to the Board from their respective committees. All three resolutions were forwarded to the Board without dissent in the committee.

ACTION: The seconded motion from the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to make certain changes to the Student Conduct Code was approved by voice vote without dissent.

ACTION: The seconded motion from the Finance and Facilities Committee to name a terrace in Tykeson Hall “Slape Terrace” was approved by voice vote without dissent.

ACTION: The seconded motion from the Finance and Facilities Committee to authorize a capital project to renovate the zebrafish facility was approved by voice vote without dissent.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.