

Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
Meeting Summary | December 3, 2018

Committee Membership

Connie Ballmer	Absent	Will Paustian	Absent
Ann Curry	Absent	Michael Schill	Present
Allyn Ford	Present	Mary Wilcox, Chair	Present
Laura Lee McIntyre	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 December 3, 2018. Below is a summary of committee discussions and actions. An audio recording is maintained on file.

Convening and Approval of Minutes. ASAC Chair Mary Wilcox called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m. The secretary recorded roll and a quorum was verified. The committee approved the minutes from the September 2018 meeting without amendment.

2018-19 Enrollment and Financial Aid & Scholarships. Roger Thompson, vice president for student services and enrollment management (SSEM), provided an overview of the enrollment information for the fall 2018 entering class. He reported that the entering class is just over 4,200 students with an average GPA of 3.59. He also noted the importance of faculty and academic units—as they work on things like core education reform—considering how best to apply the college-level work that students have completed before coming to college. Thompson also discussed the racial and ethnic diversity of the incoming class, noting that 36% are self-identified domestic minorities (exclusive of international students). He also spent some time discussing the high level of first generation students in this year’s class, pausing to acknowledge that this is important for the UO to understand and factor into student support and advising work. Trustees engaged with Thompson on a number of topics including strategies employed by SSEM to help convert admits to enrollees, what drives first-generation increases, international enrollment, and maintaining quality.

Jim Brooks, associate vice president and director of financial aid, provided an overview of the financial aid and scholarship support provided to students for the 2018-19 academic year. Regarding total loans, Brooks explained that federal loan procurements have gone down among the UO student population, but parent loans have gone up. He also discussed the general breakdown between types of aid (federal, state, or institutional) that students received this year. Institutional aid is nearly \$38 million, and the majority of that (\$24 million) is merit-based aid. Brooks concluded by showing a ten-year chart for PathwayOregon participation, which demonstrates the program’s growth from 415 students in 2008 to 800 students this academic year.

Provost’s Report. Provost and Senior Vice President Jayanth Banavar provided trustees with an update regarding mission metrics, the UO Leadership Academy, teaching evaluations, a personal anecdote to highlight diversity and inclusion at the UO, and the hire of a new chief of staff for the Office of the Provost. Banavar also thanked Brad Shelton, executive vice provost for academic operations, for his years of service

at the institution, congratulated him on his retirement, and thanked him for coming back half-time after the first of the year.

Student Success. Dennis Galvan, interim vice provost and dean for Undergraduate Studies (UGS), provided an overview of where UGS stands now as an organization and the initiatives underway to improve student success. He first noted that Doneka Scott, associate vice president for student success, was unfortunately out today due to recovery from a concussion, but that his presentation largely reflects the work that she has done within UGS and the student success realm. He recapped some of the work related to reorganization of the division to help better align the unit with student needs. A large portion of this work is related to more directed and focused advising both about academics, but also career planning and connecting students to a community within the UO. Galvan discussed how the unit looks at measurable progress, including both graduation rates and retention rates. He noted that the immediate next steps for the initiative include filling out the advising positions to reduce the advisor to student ratio to 300:1 (best practice), and building out a university first-year experience that is structured around a small cohort model. Galvan took questions from trustees that involved topics such as how best to measure the success of things such as experiential learning and participatory programs, how to incorporate partnerships with other units, and how to look more holistically at this endeavor.

Online Education. Carol Gering, associate vice provost for online education, introduced herself to the board and talked about her immediate priorities for the UO's online education portfolio. She has formed an implementation team to help provide better insight into the UO's operations and existing offerings, and is in the process of conducting a strategic scan to get an accurate picture of what is currently happening at the UO and how we can best integrate existing plans, support systems, and structures. Gering articulated her goals for calendar year 2019, which include but are not limited to: completion of a strategic plan and subsequent implementation plan, development of 30 new or upgraded courses to pilot course design opportunities, a six-percent increase in online course enrollment, and course development for recovery courses. She articulated goals for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic years and discussed with trustees the need to quickly move to a sustainable business model, which will likely involve an online course fee to help build infrastructure and planning needs.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.