

**Attendance.**

Elisa Hornecker	Present	Michael Schill	Present
Connie Ballmer	Absent	Mary Wilcox, Chair	Present
Allyn Ford	Present	Katharine Wishnia	Present
Laura Lee McIntyre	Present		

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee (“ASAC”) of the Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the University of Oregon (“UO”) met on January 27, 2020 via telephone. A public meeting space—Room 105 in Johnson Hall—was available to the public for observation of the proceedings. Below is a summary of the meeting. An audio recording is maintained on file.

**Convening.** ASAC Chair Mary Wilcox called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM. Roll was taken and a quorum verified.

**New Degree Proposals.** Patrick Phillips, provost and senior vice president, provided trustees with a recap of two new degree proposals before the committee for approval. He noted that the proposals were discussed in depth during the committee’s December 2019 meeting and that the materials are unchanged since that discussion. Phillips emphasized the historical nature of these approvals relative to establishing programs at the UO in new academic areas.

Phillips noted that the proposal in Data Science came out of years of work by Bill Cresko, a professor of biology, in establishing a program that best aligned with national trends and needs. He explained that data science programs can take many varied forms, and it was through a lot of diligence by the faculty to identify the right path forward for the UO in particular.

Phillips noted that the proposal in Bioengineering is the UO’s first engineering degree and that it will be highly interdisciplinary, and that it will leverage the strengths of many faculty members, including some who have backgrounds in bioengineering but are in different departments at the UO.

He noted that both degrees have gone through all of the appropriate university committees and bodies, including the curriculum committee in the College of Arts and Science—which is the academic home for these interdisciplinary programs—and ultimately the University Senate. He thanked trustees for joining an off-cycle meeting via phone to help move these through the approval process. The next step in that process for both programs is the statewide provost’s council and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

*The resolution to approve the new Bachelor’s Degrees in Data Science and Bioengineering was moved by Wilcox and seconded by Hornecker. It passed by a vote of 6-0.*

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.