



Academic and Student Affairs Committee Members

Rudy Chapa	Present
Ann Curry	Absent
Sam Dotters-Katz	Present
Allyn Ford	Present
Mary Wilcox, Chair	Present
Kurt Willcox	Present

The University of Oregon Board of Trustees, Academic and Student Affairs Committee met in the Ford Alumni Center on the UO campus on June 11, 2014. Below is a summary of committee discussions and actions. The meeting was called to order by ASAC Chair Mary Wilcox.

Public Comments

No public comments were presented.

Mission Statement Revision Update

Scott Coltrane informed the committee that the Mission Statement website has been reformatted. Coltrane also discussed that the Mission Statement is now divided into three segments: purpose, vision, and values; and, each segment allows viewers to submit comments. The new draft was posted to the website today.

Brad Shelton, Interim Vice-President for Research commented that students hadn't been included in the process and that needed to be corrected. Shelton also commented that the new draft was shorter and had a greater emphasis on research. He felt that each segment could now be used separately. Barbara Altmann, Senior Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs, said they listened to the feedback provided at the last ASAC meeting and believe that students are more prominent in the new draft. Their goal was to make it more aspirational, concise, and segmented.

Trustee Ford, who is from the Umpqua Valley, felt that there may be a more appropriate term to use rather than the Willamette Valley so that all of Oregon is included. Additional discussion centered on the need to capture the uniqueness of the University of Oregon and embody what it means to be a Duck.

Coltrane encouraged the committee members to submit text through the website so that concrete suggestions can be captured.

ASAC Framework and Work Plan

Guests were invited to provide the committee with information about the University during this segment of the meeting.

Altmann discussed the contract bargaining agreement process between the University and United Academics. The CBA committee has a good working relationship between members and has been meeting at least one hour each week on a continuous basis. The two-year contract was ratified on October 8, 2013. Negotiations for the next contract will begin in December of this year.

Altmann reported that faculty in all units have had the opportunity to be involved in the policy-making process. Foundation documents are completed and now in place. Every policy that has been received was fully vetted. Assignment of responsibilities will be addressed soon and feedback will be requested from faculty in the fall. Altmann reported that through the process, two basic principles have been maintained: 1) the Provost retains the right to make final academic decisions; 2) discussions need to be made at the local level.

A positive result from the agreement was that the reclassification of career and adjunct instructors was made clearer. They looked at more than four hundred positions and three hundred of those positions were reclassified and there are now less adjunct. This results in a stronger movement through the ranks for non-tenured faculty. The first NTTF celebration will be held tonight honoring their contributions.

Robin Holmes, Vice President for Student Affairs, gave an overview of her division. She informed the committee that her division will be changing its title to Student Life on July 1. The division has a staff of seven hundred and is the largest student employer on campus. They have just completed the second five-year strategic plan with one of the goals to create exceptional experiences for every student. The division has four priorities: 1) student support; 2) residential campus; 3) wellness and community; and 4) innovation. Holmes reported that her organization is working to build more collaboration with parents, making them partners.

A change coming to the campus is a new requirement that freshman reside on campus their first year. The committee had questions regarding the cost to the students. Holmes stated that she has comparison information and is happy to share it. Roger Thompson, Vice-President for Enrollment added that UO students have one of the lowest debt ratios and highest retention rates. Fifty one percent of students graduate with no debt and twenty five percent have a debt of twenty thousand or less. There was a brief discussion about funding and Trustee Curry urged the committee to begin looking for nontraditional funding sources for students.

Thompson gave an overview of his division. He informed the committee that the University of Oregon has students from all fifty states and over one hundred countries. He said that the academic quality has increased along with more diversity and Pell eligibility. He also stated that in ten years there will be six to seven thousand less high school students in Oregon. The high school population will become more diverse with Latinos as the fastest growing population. The decline in the high school population

creates challenges for the university. It will make it more important to understand the communities and their values. A different message will need to be crafted for state and for out-of-state prospective students. There are some misconceptions about UO and sciences/technology that need to be worked on. Thompson sees the need to communicate on a global scale. There was a brief discussion on academic priorities and the need for a global plan. Wilcox commented that the Board of Trustees will prioritize the areas needing attention and it will be the committee's responsibility to decide how to get there. Ford asked Thompson about the rules of engagement or competition with other Oregon schools for students. Thompson discussed the difficulty with the perceived "turf" ownership. Oregon institutions tend to feel a strong geographical ownership of potential students, but UO must compete for those students. He feels that it's important to begin making contact with students in middle school.

Sam Dotters-Katz voiced his concern about the decline in enrollment for the Law School. Shelton mentioned that the three hardest hit academic areas recently have been law, architecture, and MBA programs. It was requested that ASAC receive data regarding the Law School's enrollment.

Wilcox ended the meeting, speaking briefly about the September retreat.