**Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon**

**Meeting Summary | August 27, 2020**

**Attendance.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Marcia Aaron | Present | Elisa Hornecker | Present | Ginevra Ralph | Present |
| Peter Bragdon | Present | Ross Kari | Present | Michael Schill | Present |
| Andrew Colas | Present | Chuck Lillis | Present | Connie Seeley | Present |
| Allyn Ford | Present | Laura Lee McIntyre | Present | Mary Wilcox | Present |
| Joe Gonyea, III | Present | Jimmy Murray | Present | Katharine Wishnia | Present |

**Convening.** The Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon (Board) met via video conference on August 27, 2020. Livestream and teleconference options were made available to the public. The meeting was called to order by Chair Chuck Lillis at 1:01 p.m. A quorum was verified.Chair Lillis reminded trustees that public comment was sent to them earlier in the day, and that questions posed in the comments were sent to appropriate administrative offices for response. He also reiterated the work done over the summer by those developing the plan, as well as the reviews of prior drafts reviewed by trustees. Below is a summary of the meeting’s proceedings; a full audio recording is available upon request.

**COVID-19 Health and Safety Operational Plan.** President Michael Schill provided opening comments to the board. He thanked the many people who worked tirelessly to prepare the plan, noting the tremendous amount of uncertainty facing the institution. He articulated a few key principles pertaining to the plan, including, first and foremost, the commitment to safeguarding health and safety. He noted the breadth of topics addressed in the plan, which is designed to help ensure the core missions of teaching and research are met. He emphasized partnerships between the UO and local government. He emphasized that the success of the institution in keeping the community safe is heavily reliant on the entire community doing its part to comply with guidance, regulations, distancing, and the like.

Provost and Senior Vice President Patrick Phillips also provided some opening comments, noting the complexity of developing a safety plan for an institution such as this. He spent a few minutes discussing the decision—announced the day prior—to deliver instruction for the fall 2020 term in predominantly online and remote modalities.

Trustees then engaged with Schill, Phillips, and other administrators,\* in regard to specific questions remaining about the plan. Trustees discussed a variety of issues, including:

* Residence hall management, including approaches to manage possible outbreaks in residence halls, testing requirements, thresholds of tolerance, and whether the UO approach is different (better) than some institutions that have been in the news.
* The importance of additional and well-advertised spaces for students to utilize.
* Whether the virus can be controlled when, despite remote instruction, students will still be in the community, living in residence halls, and socializing in and around Eugene.
* Research and protocols relating to laboratory work.
* The UO’s relationship with Lane County and the City of Eugene, particularly as it relates to testing and tracing capabilities.
* Communication strategies with parents, not just students, about the safety and well-being of the community.
* Testing regarding employees and state guidance relating to employees and workforce.

\*Administrators participating in the discussion, in addition to Schill and Phillips, were Andre LeDuc, associate vice president and chief resilience officer; Kassy Fisher, associate vice president and chief of staff for finance and administration; and Leslie Leve, professor and associate vice president for research.

*ACTION: A resolution approving the operational plan was moved by Joe Gonyea and seconded by Mary Wilcox. It was approved by a vote of 13-1 (Dissenting vote(s): Wishnia).*

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 2:11 p.m.