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

**September 8, 2017**

The Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon (Board) met at the Ford Alumni Center on September 8, 2017. Below is a summary of Board reports, discussions, and actions. An audio recording is maintained on file.

**Friday, September 8, 2017**

**Convening, Introduction, Approval of Minutes.** The meeting was called to order at 8:38 a.m. by Chair Chuck Lillis. Roll call was taken and a quorum verified. June and July 2017 meeting minutes were approved without amendment.

**Public Comment.** Following is a list of individuals who spoke and the general topic(s) of their remarks.

* *Joe Tyndall – community member: spoke to the university’s culture and tolerance of social justice ideology, statistics and positions regarding rape culture in university settings*
* *Theodora Ko Thompson – alumna, classified employee: spoke to campus climate relating to and the importance of work regarding equity, inclusion, and diversity, as well as issues of racism and bigotry on campus.*
* *Bill Harbaugh – professor, senate vice president: spoke to improving faculty-administration relationships; timing of board meetings and the topics and presenters at meetings*
* *Johnny Earl – classified employee, bargaining representative from SEIU: talked about some components of the recently agreed-upon bargaining agreement and the university’s positions relative thereto, specifically health care and food service worker contributions*
* *Will Paustian – undergraduate student, trustee: spoke about his experience in a study abroad program in London*

**Reports.** The Board received standing reports from the following individuals. Full reports are available in the audio recording.

* *ASUO President Amy Schenk*
* *University Senate President Chris Sinclair*
* *Senior Vice President and Provost Jayanth Banavar*
* *President Michael Schill*

**Research Area in Focus: META Center.** David Conover, vice president for Research and Innovation, introduced Professor Karen Guillemin (Biology) and spoke about the national reputation Guillemin and the META Center have earned. Guillemin, a microbiologist and the Center’s director, articulated the Center’s purpose and underlying research philosophy: that all animals are systems of interacting cells and that we can use knowledge about these cells – specifically microbes – to better understand and manage health. Guillemin described the Center’s work through certain case examples and discussed research on Crohn’s disease, the use of zebrafish, rapidly changing microbiomes and the impact thereof on research, and other examples. She highlighted the interdisciplinary nature of the Center’s research, noting partnerships across the life sciences and social sciences looking at global health and history. Guillemin also discussed the training opportunities provided by the Center for young scientists across disciplines.

**Seconded Motions and Resolutions from Committee.** The Board considered a consent agenda containing four seconded motions from the Finance and Facilities Committee. The resolutions are available in full in the board meeting material. Topics included: naming of a new residence hall, approval of FY18 expenditure authorizations, authorization of a new bond issuance, and termination of a retirement plan no longer in use.

*ACTION: The consent calendar was approved by voice vote without dissent.*

**Campus Growth Analysis and Considerations.** Jamie Moffitt, vice president for Finance and Administration; Brad Shelton, executive vice provost; and Roger Thompson, vice president for Student Services and Enrollment Management led a discussion with trustees about the analyses and considerations factored into decisions about the population of campus, and whether – and by how much – to grow the student body. Moffitt described typical annual cost drivers and what we can expect in future years based on historical data. She also shared comparative tuition data for other AAU public institutions – resident and non-resident – and showed an analysis of potential revenue generated from various size increases to undergraduate tuition. The panel discussed potential ways to close the gap between likely revenue and expense projections, including new and expanded graduate programs, additional cost cutting and operational efficiencies, and expanding online education. They also discussed the possibility of campus growth as a way to bring in additional resources that could be used to deliver high-quality, excellent educational experiences. A model was presented using assumed growth of 3,000 additional undergraduate students over a period of eight years. The panel and trustees discussed issues related to growing the population of campus, such as recruiting (students and faculty), classroom and office space, residence hall capacity, and variable operational costs. Thompson discussed the undergraduate student market and new areas for recruiting in order to meet targeted growth. Trustees asked questions about the mix of residents to non-residents, trends in international student matriculation, and infrastructure needs.

**Adjournment.**  The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.