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

**Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

**Meeting Summary | March 1, 2018**

**Committee Membership**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Connie Ballmer | Present | Will Paustian | Present |
| Ann Curry | Present  | 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 March 1, 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 9:02 a.m. The secretary recorded roll and a quorum was verified.The committee approved the minutes from the December 2017 meeting without amendment.

**Accreditation.** Chair Wilcox introduced the accreditation materials and asked trustees if there were any questions for the administration on the straightforward materials provided. There were no questions.

**COE Teaching Training Plan.** College of Education (COE) Dean Randy Kamphaus and Assoc. Dean Krista Chronister presented the COE’s biennial equity in teaching training plan, which must be submitted to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) this spring. Chronister noted that the UO is tracking outcomes and progress toward the goals articulated in 2016 and these updated goals from 2018. The report was accepted by the ASAC for submission to the HECC.

**Teaching Excellence.** Chair Wilcox welcomed Scott Pratt, executive vice provost and professor of Philosophy, Lee Rumbarger, assistant vice provost and director of the Teaching Engagement Program, and Sierra Dawson, associate vice provost and faculty member in the Department of Human Physiology. This panel engaged in a discussion with trustees about teaching effectiveness, including programs at the UO aimed at helping faculty members continuously develop teaching and classroom skills. The panel discussed three core principles applied to teaching at the UO: engaged, research-led, and inclusive teaching. They also discussed specific training and development opportunities for faculty members with teaching obligations, including graduate employees. The panel then spoke about the move of the UO’s Teaching Engagement Program (TEP) from Undergraduate Studies to the Provost’s Office as a way to elevate TEP’s role with regard to graduate and undergraduate students. There was some discussion about whether training opportunities are mandatory or voluntary, how faculty are encouraged or incentivized to participate, and how the UO measures the success of these programs.

**Mental Health – Student Services and Support.** Chair Wilcox welcomed a panel including Doneka Scott, associate vice provost for student success; Kris Winter, dean of students; and Shelly Kerr, director of the UO’s counseling and testing center. Scott provided an overview of the impacts of mental health and related issues on student success, including retention or withdrawal. Kerr provided an overview of national trends as well as local statistics relating to students in college and relative occurrences of issues along the mental health spectrum. Winter provided an overview of the UO’s intervention and prevention services available to students. Trustees engaged in questions and discussions on these trends, the UO’s ability to measure and meet demand, underlying causes of increased mental health issues within the college-aged population, and the ability to effectively measure patterns and needs. They also discussed capacity for crisis management and intervention, to which Winter pointed out that she is very proud of her team and believes the UO’s collaborative approach helps ensure we have the capability to manage issues. She did indicate that there are of course added pressures on capacity during acute times of crisis when resources need to be deployed. There was also a discussion about how we communicate to students about the services available and what we are doing to think about improving those outreach opportunities. There was acknowledgment that it is generally difficult to get students’ attention toward such matters, but that they are trying to continuously improve these efforts. There was further discussion on national best practices and how universities work together to share ideas and improve internal processes.

**Clark Honors College.** Karen Ford, interim dean of the Clark Honors College (CHC), spoke with trustees about current changes proposed within the CHC regarding faculty structures to help better align course offerings and student experiences with demand and changing best practices. She began with an overview of the CHC’s student body, history, and administrative structures. She then discussed the transitions underway and the opportunities stemming therefrom to better serve current students, attract more students, better embed the CHC within the overall UO academic community, and continually improve the CHC. Largely this includes changes to how faculty are hired, noting that faculty will no longer be hired into the honors college directly, but will instead by hired into disciplinary departments and then be considered “in residence” at the CHC. The goal with this change is to broaden the disciplinary expertise and diversity of faculty available to CHC students. Trustee Will Paustian, a student in the CHC, asked whether this new model will impact the current feel, size, and format of CHC classes. Ford noted that those are core pieces of the CHC’s philosophy and will not change – that faculty partnering with the CHC will be expected to maintain these same principles and formats. There was some discussion about the College’s current top 10 ranking nationally (unranked among those 10), and why such changes are necessary if the UO is historically thought of so highly. Ford noted that continuous improvement is imperative, and that those things which put us in the top 10 would not be changed. Trustees spoke with Ford and Jamie Moffitt, Vice President for Finance and Administration, about the proposed reduction in CHC differential tuition, which is before the board for consideration on Friday, March 2. Ford also discussed those items on the horizon within the CHC for the new dean. (The search for the new dean is underway with a hopeful start in summer 2018.) Trustees also discussed general issues around the Honors College, such as curricular improvements.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.