

## Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon Executive and Audit Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary | May 22, 2019

**Committee Membership** 

Peter Bragdon	Absent	Chuck Lillis, Chair	Present
Allyn Ford	Present	Ginevra Ralph	Present
Ross Kari	Present	Mary Wilcox	Absent

The Executive and Audit Committee (EAC) of the Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon (Board) met on May 22, 2019 in the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art on the Eugene Campus. Below is a summary of the committee's discussion and actions. An audio recording is maintained on file.

**Convening, Introduction, Approval of Minutes.** The meeting was called to order at 1:52 p.m. by Committee Chair Chuck Lillis. Roll was taken and a quorum verified. The minutes from the March 2019 meeting were approved without amendment.

Internal Audit. Trisha Burnett, chief internal auditor, informed trustees that the vacant internal audit position has been filled and that senior auditor, Amy Smith, has completed all required steps for official certification as an internal auditor. Burnett provided an overview of the Q3 audit report, including an overview of completed projects, projects in process, and hotline items. Chair Lillis asked Burnett about the program her office is running in partnership with the Accounting department in the Lundquist College of Business, wherein students work directly with the Office of Internal Audit (OIA) on real-world projects to gain hands on experience in internal audit. Burnett then turned to the proposed FY20 audit plan. She noted the collaboration with the UO's enterprise risk management office and committees, and the use of risk assessment interviews in building the proposed audit plan. Trustee Kari noted the ambitious nature of the plan and the positive nature of OIA's internal capacity to take on more projects. Chair Lillis asked Burnett to remind the committee of the difference between consulting projects and audit projects; Burnett noted that the key difference is that, in the latter, OIA has identified a risk-based need for assessment whereas, in the former, an office may want proactive guidance or assessment even if there is no per se identified risk. Trustee Ralph asked for more information about the external review noted in the report; Burnett explained that an external review should be done every five years as best practice, and that the UO will complete this through a self-assessment with external assurance (a common practice). Trustee Aaron asked whether the admissions audit project on the FY20 plan would include a look at vulnerabilities related to the recent "Varsity Blues" admissions scandals; Burnett noted that this would indeed be included. President Schill asked for more information about the audit project relating to university committees; Burnett noted that this is about getting a good understanding of institutional committees, ensuring there are clear charters and expectations, etc.

ACTION: The resolution was moved by Trustee Ford and seconded by Trustee Kari; it was approved by a voice vote without dissent.

**Enterprise Risk Management**. Andre Le Duc, chief resilience officer, provided a semi-annual report to the committee regarding enterprise risk management and the work of the Strategic Enterprise Risk Management and Compliance Committee (SERMC). Le Duc noted that one goal of SERMC and his unit is to help the university be more risk aware, and not necessarily risk averse—being knowledgeable about the institution's risks, building key collaborative networks, implementing policies and procedures to help

with front-end planning and mitigation, and increasing awareness and training. Le Duc highlighted the relationship between Risk Management and Internal Audit and the importance of these two units sharing information. Le Duc provided a few key SERMC working groups, including nighttime safety and campus lighting, enterprise training coordination, university reporting channels, and Clery Act compliance. These groups are meant to provide a collaborative approach to understanding and mitigating the institution's risks in these areas. Le Duc provided examples of ways SERMC and Safety and Risk Services are leveraging existing resources to improve education and training, such as the use of the classroom software "Canvas" to disseminate information and training modules. He discussed efforts to create a centralized location where the community can report a concern — whether that concern is financial, risk, behavioral, etc. — to create easier reporting opportunities, more seamless communication and information gathering between units, and reduce risk of having multiple sources for such work and multiple locations for storing such information. Le Duc then introduced a team of students from Allen Hall Advertising who are working with Safety and Risk Services on nighttime safety and campus lighting messaging campaign; they shared a video with the committee that AHA developed as one example of their work.

Information Services / Transform IT. Jessie Minton, chief information officer, provided the committee with an overview of the current status of Transform IT and information services overall. Minton discussed an overview of the plans to merge user support services (a.k.a. help desk) across campus. She then provided the committee a status report on other initiatives underway, particularly those relating to cybersecurity. She informed the committee that certain items in the cybersecurity mitigation plan were awaiting a funding recommendation by the Budget Advisory Group, and that the BAG's recommendation was approved this week by the provost. This will provide hundreds of thousands in recurring dollars to information services specifically for identified strategies to better protect data, reduce the risk of cyber-attack (such as phishing schemes), and the like. Minton also highlighted the work done by information services in collaboration with technology partners across the state to improve the State of Oregon's overall connectivity (both internally and interstate).

Planning and Public Affairs PhD. Rich Margerum, professor and school head of planning and public policy, presented the resolution regarding a new PhD program in Planning and Public Affairs. The degree would be issued through the School of Planning, Public Policy and Management within the College of Design. Margerum provided some background on the School of PPPM overall and then provided more detail about the new degree's origins and areas of research concentration. He noted that the areas of focus (community and regional planning, public administration and public policy, and nonprofit management and arts management) leverage existing PPPM faculty strengths and the UO's existing reputation and competitive advantage. The proposal has gone through necessary campus approvals and is before the committee for approval prior to submission to the HECC.

ACTION: The resolution was moved by Trustee Kari and seconded by Trustee Ralph; it was approved by voice vote without dissent.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.