

Board of Trustees Agenda MINUTES

Trustees Present:

Lisa Graham, Chair	Rose McClure	Grace Rusth
Steve Sliwa, Vice Chair	Jill Mason	Paul Stewart
Jeremy Brown	Kelley Minty Morris	Fred Ziari
Jessica Gomez	Nagi Naganathan, President	
Kathleen Hill	Liam Perry	

University Staff and Faculty Present:

Dave Groff, Legal Counsel
Adria Paschal, Senior Executive Assistant to the President

1. Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum

Chair Graham called the meeting to order at 9:10am. The Secretary called roll and a quorum was declared.

2. Consent Agenda

2.1 Approve Minutes of the May 17, 2018 Meeting

Trustee Minty Morris moved to approve the consent agenda. **Trustee Mason** seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes stand as published.

Trustee Ziari arrived at 8:13am.

3. Action Items

3.1 Committee Appointments

Chair Graham explained the makeup of the board changed since the last time members were appointed to committees. She proposed to appoint new trustees McClure and Rusth to the Academic Quality and Student Success and Finance and Facilities committees, respectively. She also proposed to appoint Trustee Jones as the chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee.

Trustee Stewart moved to approve the appointment of Trustee McClure to the Academic Quality and Student Success committee, Trustee Rusth to the Finance and Facilities committee, and Trustee Jones as the chair of the Finance and Facilities committee. **Trustee Minty Morris** seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Sliwa explained with the upcoming capital projects, the Finance and Facilities committee will be shifting focus from budget and finances to facilities and the chairmanship should reflect this. Trustee Jones is an expert on building and related infrastructures in the public domain.

With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion Items

4.1 University Strategic Directions

Chair Graham explained the intent for today is to have open conversation on the strategic directions of the university. Discussion regarding balancing the local needs with the desire to take large risks.

President Naganathan started a PowerPoint presentation, giving a progress report on the 11 Short-term Action Plan goals, identifying opportunities and challenges facing the university, current mission and vision statements, 2020 Strategic Plan core themes, the aspirational vision, and where he would like to see the university in 10 years. Specifically, his 10 year vision included: being clearly identified as ‘industry’s university’; having evidenced global leadership in polytechnic education and applied research, nurturing career-ready professionals and leaders of tomorrow; at least 7,500 students strong with a diverse student body; at least three well-established Innovations Centers strategically linked to industry; and a truly engaged university through our mission, partnering with the communities we serve. He addressed strategic directions for faculty, staff and students; programs; and funding.

Discussion regarding where Oregon Tech might be able to establish geographic footprints to increase brand awareness, protect the university from other university expansions, encourage students to come to the main campus in Klamath Falls, and the unfounded concerns that the main campus will move. **Trustee Gomez** identified the potential for growth in the medical fields in Medford and stated there is a desire to have Oregon Tech’s presence there. **Trustee Rusth** saw it as an effort to bring Medford (or other areas) to Oregon Tech. She recommended putting more effort into academic agreements and establishing an Oregon Tech office in the downtown Medford Rogue Community College/Southern Oregon University Higher Education Center office. **Chair Graham** acknowledged the university is in a competitive environment and we need to do more than we have in the past. **Vice Chair Sliwa** complimented staff for not spending the strategic investment money approved in the deficit budget last year, and challenged staff to create a cadence of new programs, at least one per year, to open up aperture and agility.

Break 11:00-11:15

President Naganathan addressed the new budgeting process that gives the Deans and Chairs more autonomy, explained a conditional analysis of all campuses is underway, and clarified other programs are welcome in the Center for Excellence of Engineering and Technology and the space will promote interdisciplinary work. **Trustee Brown** requested the short-term plan be tied to the long-term strategic plan and include all stakeholders to address shared governance. **President Naganathan** stated his goal for the strategic plan is to have 10-15 measurable and specific goals for the institution over 10 years, with a

timeline, to show on a dashboard. **Trustee Hill** expressed concern about the nomenclature used in short-term goal #3 (b) and (c) related to diversity. It was agreed to amend (b) to read “Elevate our partnership with the Tribes and Native American communities” and (c) to reflect the desire to strengthen the partnership with the Latino organizations and communities.

Discussion regarding specific goals. **Vice Chair Sliwa** recommended the addition of a goal addressing the desire to improve shared governance and to show the work towards achieving the goal. **Chair Graham** recognized the advancement made on the short-term action plan approved in 2017 and made it clear the next conversation needs to focus on long-term goals and planning. She wants a handful of measurable goals for the 5-year and 10-year timeline.

Trustee Gomez moved to endorse the short-term action plan and the progress made, and requested the president take the input from the Board and refine the plan as he moves forward. Trustee Minty Morris seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

President Naganathan addressed opportunities and challenges facing the university including alumni and donor cultivation. **Chair Graham** announced the Executive Committee made a recommendation to the Governor to nominate Mike Starr to the Board. He is a senior executive with Boeing, an alum, and a KF native. **Vice Chair Sliwa** reiterated the need to have a safe and inviting residential campus, and to provide additional student services to recruit and retain freshman and international students. Discussion regarding on-campus living and a potential requirement of freshman and sophomores to live on campus.

LUNCH

Chair Graham received the following input from Trustees during a general discussion: the desire and need to update, refresh, and improve our product; strategy for technology development, brand/name awareness and polytechnic label; identification of aspirational peer institutions; the effect of growth on faculty and staff; and the concern there is administrative bloat and growth. Other topics included: growth in existing programs and/or the creation of new degree programs; defining the desired relationship with community colleges; capitalizing on and getting recognition through STEM Council; working with OHSU rural health campus; increasing diversity; increasing retention; and getting better before we get bigger – especially concerning infrastructure.

President Naganathan reminded the Board of the current mission statement, the legal document, approved by HECC and reviewed by our accreditors, and those of the university’s aspirational peers. Discussion regarding tuition for various categories of students and the need to create a model. Discussion regarding the creation of new programs, where ideas come from, and that not all programs can come from bottom-up; they need to come from the top-down also.

Trustee Gomez exited the meeting at 3:40pm.

Trustee Brown encouraged incentivizing entrepreneurship. Discussion regarding the utilization of campuses during summer months and the need for summer programs.

5. Other Matters

Chair Graham asked for Board representation at the Paramedic and MLS graduations. **Trustee McClure** volunteered for the MLS graduation. Trustees identified key takeaways from the meeting or something they are excited about going forward.

6. Public Comment - none

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:12pm

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Fox
Board Secretary

The Board convened to Executive Session from 4:30pm to 5:30pm on August 13 for annual ethics training and from 9:00am to 11:30am on August 14 to discuss General Counsel issues and labor negotiations.