

**MINUTES****Trustees Present:**

Lisa Graham, Chair	Jessica Gomez	Kelley Minty Morris (via telephone)
Steve Sliwa, Vice Chair	Kathleen Hill	Dan Peterson (via telephone)
Jeremy Brown	Vince Jones	Paul Stewart
Nicole Galster	Jay Kenton, Interim President	Fred Ziari
Bill Goloski	Jill Mason	

**University Staff and Faculty Present:**

Lita Colligan, AVP Strategic Partnerships  
Barb Conner, Director of Retention  
Carleen Drago, Academic Partnership Coordinator  
Marla Edge, Director of Academic Agreements  
Erin Foley, VP Student Affairs/Dean of Students  
Brian Fox, VP Finance and Administration  
Hugh Jarrard, Assistant Professor and VP of Faculty Senate  
LeAnn Maupin, Acting Provost/Dean of the College of HAS  
Laura McKinney, VP Wilsonville  
Brittany Miles, Industry Outreach – Government Relations Manager  
Steve Neiheisel, VP Strategic Enrollment Management  
Hallie Neupert, Interim Dean of the College of ETM/Department Chair  
Dana Onorato, Associate Dean of Students  
Tracy Ricketts, AVP of Development and Alumni Relations  
Paul Rowan, CIO/AVP Information Technology Services  
Di Saunders, AVP Marketing and Public Relations  
Maureen Sevigny, Distance Education Program Manager  
Farooq Sultan, Institutional Research Analyst Programmer

**Others Present:**

Ellie Boggs, Assistant to the Director of the Oregon University President's Council  
Rep. John Davis, President Search Committee Member  
Kevin Malstrom, ASOIT Wilsonville President  
Dr. Nagi Naganathan, President Candidate, College of Engineering Dean, University of Toledo  
Dana Richardson, Executive Director of the Oregon University President's Council  
Dee Thompson, Foundation President

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

**Chair Graham** called the meeting to order at 8:02am. The Secretary called roll and a quorum was declared.

## 2. Reports

### 2.1 President's Report and Discussion

**Interim President Kenton** introduced Dr. Steve Neiheisel, VP of Strategic Enrollment Management. **VP Neiheisel** gave an update on enrollment.

**Interim President Kenton** reported on: the creation of a committee to work on becoming a Blue Zone employer; approval of a salary increase of 4% to be implemented midway through the year; adjusted adjunct rates; appointment of LeAnn Maupin as the Interim Provost; searches for an Athletic Director and CIO; men's and women's cross country team were invited to attend the nationals; closing the purchase on OMIC in Scappoose; a reminder memo to faculty of the requirement to make accommodations for ADA; the possible creation of a job to caption videos to meet ADA standards; request to reduce the Cornett/Engineering capital project budget; a letter from all public university presidents encouraging the Governor to allocate additional funds to address PERS costs; his appreciation of Trustee Minty Morris and the search committee; discussing the creation of a vocation center with City/County School District, Klamath Community College, KCEDA, and the City and County of Klamath Falls; working on MOU with SLMC and OHSU; making progress on DPT degree; the Foundation raised \$1M to date with a goal of raising another \$1M by the end of the year; and the possibility of significant tuition increase if state funding is drastically cut.

**Manager Miles** walked through the legislative session update.

### 2.2 ASOIT Wilsonville Report

**President Malstrom** stated the group is working on reevaluating the use of public spaces; modifying drinking fountains to water bottle filling stations; working with adjacent businesses to have food carts come to campus; reaching out to the food bank to provide students access to food; working to encourage legislature to have the SNAP program to recognize a full-time student as meeting assistance standards with FAFSA form information. **Trustee Ziari** offered to work with the ASOIT group on their efforts to ensure students have adequate access to food by connecting them to farmers.

### 2.3 Faculty Senate Report

**VP of Faculty Senate Jarrard** gave a report on behalf of Faculty Senate President David Thaemert: the Academic Standard Committee is addressing accreditation concerns including the credit for prior learning policy, verifying course control policy insurance, and the incorporation of the General Education taskforce recommendations. The Elections Committee is soliciting nominations for the Inter-institutional Faculty Senate at-large position for Oregon Tech. The Faculty Compensation Committee is looking at the faculty compensation policy, faculty compensation/COLA/institutional floors/market salaries; and current policies regarding fair compensation of Department Chairs. The Faculty Welfare Committee is focusing on fair and equitable assignment of committee

assignments, faculty workload guidelines, and review of the faculty senate charter as it relates to chairing committees. The Rank, Promotion, and Tenure Committee is focusing on solidifying policies around non-tenure track faculty, faculty objective plan, adequacy of annual evaluation forms, refining the process of electronic tenure portfolio submission, and peer review for junior faculty.

#### 2.4 **Legislative Session Update** – see President’s Report (2.1)

#### 2.5 **Academic Quality and Student Success Committee Report**

**Trustee Brown** welcomed Trustees Mason and Galster to the committee. The committee heard a presentation on a proposed new degree program in professional writing and will request the Board discuss the proposal prior to taking any action. He thanked the faculty and staff for their work based on achieving the positive accreditation reviews and commendations. Barb Conner, Director of Retention, gave a presentation on the various programs available to assist students in completing their education. Nicole Briggs, Title IX Director, joined the meeting by phone and updated the committee on Title IX training. A report was given outlining the types of faculty hired and there seems to be room to increase the diversity of faculty to match the diversity of students. Staff and faculty are looking at the impact of the general education reform proposal on transferable credits for incoming students. Efforts are being made by the faculty to provide affordable textbooks.

#### 2.6 **Finance and Facilities Committee Report Vice Chair Sliwa** requested time on a future board agenda for VPFA Fox to show the newly created dashboard template. The committee learned that the budget is on track, but the fund balance is still tracking at over 30%, which is over the 10-15% identified in board policy. The committee recommended the board approve the creation and funding of a quasi-endowment fund to more efficiently manage reserves. The committee also recommended the board approve the emergency electrical and storm drainage project and authorize the issuance of state funded debt. The internal audit firm, Kernutt Stokes, explained the audit and risk assessment process. The committee suggested staff conduct a morale/culture survey. There was consensus to conduct an audit of financial aid and one auxiliary fund, and Tier 1 and 2 items were identified for future audits. Trustee Jones will act as the committee’s internal audit representatives for the facilities issues and Vice Chair Sliwa will be the point person for general issues. The committee received a report on the possibility of rehabilitating the rec center; an update on the PUF. OSU is looking at removing investments from fossil-fuel related investments and will likely request a letter from the Chairs of the public universities outlining each university’s position. The committee was concerned that this could be the beginning of continued requests. **Trustee Brown** suggested making some investments to try and prevent drastic increases to tuition. The Cornett renovation project is moving forward.

#### 2.7 **Executive Committee Report**

**Chair Graham** outlined the changes to committee assignments and stated the committee received an update from Dean Maupin on the HECC evaluation including accreditation statistics. The committee also reviewed an analysis prepared by VPFA Fox of employing internal legal counsel. They received a president search committee report from Trustee Minty Morris.

### 3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 Approve Minutes of the October 3, 2016 Meeting
- 3.2 Approve the Creation and Funding of a Quasi-Endowment Fund
- 3.3 Approve the Emergency Electrical and Storm Drainage Project and Authorize the Issuance of State Funded Debt
- 3.4 Recommendation to Provost's Council to Approve a New Program: BS in Professional Writing

Trustee Brown moved to pull item 3.4 Recommendation to Provost's Council to Approve a new Program: BS in Professional Writing from the consent agenda for further discussion. Trustee Mason seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion carried unanimously. The item was considered under Action Items.

Trustee Stewart moved to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Galster seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion carried unanimously.

### 4. Discussion Items

#### 4.1 Advanced Credit Program Presentation

Director of Academic Agreements, Marla Edge explained that in the Advanced Credit Program, high school students take a college course in their high school and receive high school credit and college credit. The program is designed to accelerate student success. She covered tuition, the opportunities to increase enrollment and convert students to admitted Oregon Tech students.

Chair Graham introduced Dana Richardson, Executive Director for the newly formed President's Council and Ellie Boggs, Assistant to the Director. Interim President Kenton explained the intent of creating the Council, which mirrors the Community College President's Council, to Stronger together.

4.2 Marketing/Communications/Public Affairs Update - written material only

4.3 Annual Ethics and Conflict of Interest Training  
The Board chair postponed this item.

### 5. Action Item

#### 5.0 Pulled Consent Item: 3.4 Recommendation to Provost's Council to Approve a new Program: BS in Professional Writing

Trustee Brown identified the concerns of the Academic Quality and Student Success Committee including whether the proposed program aligns with the mission of the university, whether the program should be a bachelor of science or a bachelor of arts or a certificate program. He outlined possible options for the Board's consideration: continue on with the recommendation to the Provost's Council, determine the program does not fit in with the mission, or request additional clarification from staff and bring it back to the AQ&SS Committee with options, such as whether this could be offered as a certificate.

**Trustee Peterson** discussed the growth in social sciences, that the programs are offered at a low cost to the university, and this proposed degree meets the needs of external partners. Explained that communication seems to be a core of Oregon Tech; the university requires more communication courses than other universities. Discussion regarding enrollment numbers for programs. **Trustee Ziari** would like a bigger picture of the potential degrees.

**Vice Chair Sliwa moved to forward the program proposal to the Provost's Council for review and advice, and return the proposal to the AQ&SS Committee and Board for consideration of recommendation to the HECC. Trustee Jones seconded the motion.**

Trustee Stewart proposed an amendment to the motion to ask staff to modify the proposal to address committee and board concerns prior to submitting the program to the Provost's Council. **Vice Chair Sliwa** and **Trustee Jones** agreed to the amendment.

Modified motion: **Direct staff to modify the program proposal to address the concerns raised by the Academic Quality and Student Success Committee and Board, forward the program to the Provost's Council for review and advice, and return the program proposal to the Academic Quality and Student Success Committee and Board for consideration of recommendation to the HECC.**

Discussion regarding essential studies integrating communication and writing into all fields; and concern about maintaining the degree.

**With all Trustees present voting aye, the modified motion passed unanimously.**

#### **5.1 Search Committee Report and Appointment of a New President**

**Chair Graham** noted Dee Thompson's, Oregon Tech Foundation Board President and Representative John Davis' attendance at the meeting and thanked them for serving on the search committee. **Trustee Minty Morris, Search Committee Chair**, gave a summary of the search process and will propose a motion on behalf of the committee.

**Trustee Minty Morris moved that the Board appoint Dr. Nagi Naganathan as the University's 7th President and authorize Chair Graham to negotiate a contract. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.**

Trustees shared the positive traits they see and their perspectives of Dr. Naganathan, and their appreciation for the process and search committee members. **Trustee Stewart** stated that the search was an integrity-filled process despite the anonymous criticisms from uninformed individuals.

**With all Trustees present voting aye through a roll-call vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Dr. Naganathan** thanked the Board for his appointment. He appreciated the enthusiasm of the search committee members, faculty, staff and students he met during the process. **Chair Graham** thanked Dr. Kenton for his outstanding leadership during the transition.

**BREAK 11:30am-noon**

**6. Other Matters**

**Chair Graham** explained the process of notifying the campuses, other university presidents, and communities regarding the appointment, and that Dr. Naganathan is expected to start at the beginning of April. She thanked Trustee Minty Morris for all of the time she spent on the search committee and her leadership ability. **Chair Graham** will have a debrief meeting with the search firm and Trustee Minty Morris.

**7. Public Comment - none**

**8. Adjournment**

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Fox', is positioned above the typed name.

Sandra Fox  
Board Secretary