Oregon TECH
Oregon Institute of Technology

Meeting of the Oregon Tech Board of Trustees
Academic Quality and Student Success Committee
Virtually via Microsoft Teams
Wednesday, October 28, 2026
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Academic Quality and Student Success Committee
AGENDA

1. **Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum** (10:00 AM) (5 min) Co-*Chairs Cecelia Amuchastegui and Celia Nuñez*

2. **Consent Agenda** (10:05 AM) (5 min) C*o-Chairs Amuchastegui and Nuñez*
   - **2.1 Approve the minutes of the meeting on June 2, 2026.**

3. **Reports**
   - **3.1 Provost's Report, including Strategic Enrollment and Academic Affairs** (10:10 AM) (45 min) *Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs & Strategic Enrollment Management, Dr. Hesham El-Rewini*
   - **3.2 Student Affairs Report** (10:55 AM) (35 min) *Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Mandi Clark*
   - **3.3 HB 4124 Higher Education Revitalization Study: Update and Trustee Discussion** (11:30 AM) (20 min) *Executive Director of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Ben Cannon*

4. **Discussion Items** (11:50 AM) (5 Min) *Co-Chairs Amuchastegui and Nuñez*

5. **Other Business/New Business** (11:55 AM) (5 min) *Co-Chairs Amuchastegui and Nuñez*

6. **Adjournment** (12:00 PM)

All times and discussion lengths are estimated and approximate.

The Co-Chairs of the Committee reserve the right to adjust the agenda schedule and the length of agenda items.

2.1

Minutes: June 2, 2026

Oregon TECH
Board of Trustees

Meeting of the Oregon Tech Board of Trustees
Academic Quality & Student Success Committee
Via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday, June 2, 2026
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Academic Quality and Student Success Committee
MINUTES

DRAFT

Trustees present:
Co-Chair Cecelia Amuchastegui
Co-Chair Celia Núñez
Dr. Johnnie Early
Kim Faks
Dr. Mark Neupert

Other Trustees present:
Board Chair John Davis

Trustees not present:
Don Gentry
Keegan Dentinger
Aaron Hill

University Faculty, Staff, Students, and Visitors in attendance:
Dr. Abdy Afjeh, Sr. Vice Provost for Research & Graduate Studies
Dr. Neslihan Alp, Dean of College of Engineering, Technology and Management
Sharon Beaudry, Esq, Instructor, Management
Shawni Cayetano-Ramos, Associate Director of Student Leadership and Culture
Brenda Campbell, Executive Assistant, Office of the Provost
Ryan Cherrick, Assistant Professor, Management
Dr. Mandi Clark, Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Kenneth Davis, Department Chair and Associate Professor, Mathematics
Dr. Hesham El-Rewini, Provost and Sr. VP, Academic Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management
Dr. Ken Fincher, Vice President of University Advancement & Executive Director, Oregon Tech Foundation
Dr. Ashton Greer, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering
David Groff, Esq., General Counsel
John Harman, Sr. VP, Finance and Administration
Katie Harman Ebner, Strategic Communications Advisor (Acting Board Secretary)

Dr. Ian King, Instructor, Management
Gaylyn Maurer, Executive Director, Health and Wellness
Dr. Beverly McCreary, Vice Provost of Faculty Success
Josephine Ness, Executive Director, Recruiting and Retention
Adria Paschal, Senior Executive Assistant, President's Office
Dr. Michelle Preston, Associate Dean of the College of Health, Arts and Science
Dr. Riley Richards, Assistant Professor, Communications
Dr. Heather Saigo, Instructional Designer, Online Learning
Don Stockton, Director of Veterans Services
Dr. Greg Stringer, Associate Vice President for SEM and Student Success
Bryan Wada, Information Technology Specialist
Dr. Jennifer Wilson, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Equity
Dr. Jackie Zhang, Dean of the College of Health, Arts and Sciences

1. **Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum** Co-*Chairs Cecelia Amuchastegui and Celia Núñez*
   Co-Chair Núñez called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and declared a quorum.

2. **Consent Agenda** C*o-Chairs Amuchastegui and Núñez*
   - **2.1 Approve the minutes of the meeting on April 7, 2026**
     Co-Chair Núñez shared the minutes of the April 7, 2026 Academic Quality and Student Success (AQSS) Committee meeting for approval. No comments or revisions were offered.
     - **2.1.1 Action:**
       A motion was made by **Trustee Neupert** to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2026 AQSS Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Faks**. A roll call vote was conducted. Ayes: Amuchastegui, Núñez, Early, Faks, Neupert. Nays: none. The motion carried **unanimously,** and the minutes were **approved**.

3. **Reports**
   - **3.1 Provost's Report** *Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Strategic Enrollment Management, Dr. Hesham El-Rewini*

     <u>Institutional Goals Update</u>
     Provost El-Rewini presented an update on AY2025–26 institutional goals for which Academic Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management carry primary responsibility. Highlights included:
     - Strategic Plan Implementation: Goal one, completion of the new strategic plan, is 100% complete. Provost El-Rewini outlined a structured implementation model consisting of an implementation leader, a cross-functional team of fewer than ten members, a project management team, and supporting expert subcommittees. The project management team, comprising Kate Gunther, Gaylyn Maurer, and Dr. Jennifer Wilson, will monitor progress, track KPIs, identify risks, and report through dashboards.
     - Enrollment Growth: As of May 15, completed applications are up 31% year over year and deposits are up approximately 9%, a key leading indicator for fall 2026 enrollment. The goal of growing overall enrollment by 3–5% will be

measured at the census point in the fourth week of the fall term.

- Retention: The retention rate for first-year full-time students is showing improvement, with 88% of students retained from fall to spring, tracking toward the goal of a 2% increase over the prior year.
- Research and Grants: Fifty-six grant proposals have been submitted as of May 15, progressing toward the goal of a 25% increase over the three-year average. The new Google AI Platform is expected to further accelerate proposal activity once fully implemented.
- Study Abroad: Three of five targeted international university partnerships have been established and approximately 30 of 60 anticipated students are confirmed, placing this goal at 55% completion.
- AI Initiatives: AI competency has been incorporated into ten courses and the BS in Artificial Intelligence degree has been established, surpassing initial targets.
- Faculty Retention: Ongoing efforts focus on mentorship, workload, evaluation, promotion, and tenure processes. A new mid-career faculty and staff academy is being developed to cultivate future university leaders.

Faculty Initiatives

Provost El-Rewini introduced two faculty-led projects aligned with institutional goals:

- **Math Plus Success Pilot** *Dr. Heather Saigo, Dr. Ken Davis, and Dr. Riley Richards*

  Drs. Saigo, Davis, and Richards presented an update on the Math Plus Success pilot program, which integrates learning sciences and non-cognitive skill development, including growth mindset and self-regulation, into the Math 105Z curriculum:

  - The pilot achieved a reduction in the DFWI (D grade, F grade, withdrawal, or incomplete) rate from over 20% to 0%, with the majority of students earning A and B grades.
  - Dr. Richards outlined plans to expand the model to additional courses with traditionally high DFWI rates and to publish the research results in the coming term.
  - A control group is in place to allow comparison between sections with and without the new modules.
  - The team is gathering ongoing student feedback to ensure the integrated curriculum feels cohesive rather than supplemental.

  Trustee Neupert commended the faculty for their work, noting alignment with statewide interest in preparing universities to meet diverse student needs.

- **Faculty Mentorship Program** *Dr. Michelle Preston and Dr. Ashton Greer*

  Drs. Preston and Greer presented a new two-year faculty mentorship program developed for their respective colleges, with support from the

Office of the Provost:

- The program pairs new faculty members with mentors who have at least five years of experience at Oregon Tech.
- Program elements include mentorship training, structured meetings, community events, and ongoing assessment.
- Recruitment of mentor-mentee pairs is underway, with finalization planned over the summer and a fall launch anticipated.

Trustee Amuchastegui recommended incorporating a baseline self-assessment for mentees at program entry to establish outcome measurement.

Trustee Neupert highlighted the value of using last year's hiring cohort to anchor faculty retention metrics. **Trustee Núñez** requested that college acronyms, including ETM and HAS, be expanded in public-facing presentations for clarity.

Searches and New Programs

Provost El-Rewini reported on recent and ongoing personnel searches and newly approved academic programs:

- External leadership hires: Dr. Jackie Zhang (Dean, College of Health Arts and Sciences), Dr. Richard Bissell (Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, beginning June 29), Dr. Ahmed Al Akshar (Department Chair, Applied Computing and Geomatics), and Casey Santucci (Department Chair, Computer Systems Engineering).
- New faculty hires: Dr. Tang Young and Dr. Saifal Islam (Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Technology) and two visiting instructors, Hitura Anihaya (Marriage and Family Therapy) and Brittany Pennington (Respiratory Care).
- Internal appointments: Dr. Kyle Chapman (Graduate Studies Director), Dr. C.G. Riley (Chair, Civil Department), Dr. Shawn Bailey (Chair, Behavioral Sciences), and Krista Beaty (Chair, Dental Hygiene), among others.
- Open positions: Twelve positions remain open, including the Chair of Business Management and Director of Construction Management, following retirements and resignations.

Trustee Neupert inquired about the use and financial implications of an external search firm. Provost **El-Rewini** confirmed the firm was engaged for five positions, yielding four hires, with one search still in progress. Costs were covered by savings from vacant salaries. **Trustee Neupert** recommended that future reliance on external search firms be reflected as a specific budget line item. Provost El-Rewini noted a preference to limit external firm engagement to senior-level roles going forward.

3.2 Student Affairs Report *Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Mandi Clark*

Dr. Clark presented a report on student engagement, athletic performance, housing, health services, and upcoming programming.

- Athletics: The softball team won the Cascade Collegiate Conference Championship for the fifth consecutive year and hosted the NAIA National Championship Series opening round. A new basketball court at the Tech Rec is nearing completion, with availability expected by the summer term.
- Career Services: Career Services hosted a spring collaboration event supporting graduating students with career advising and resume development, along with a spring graduate fair with strong employer participation.
- Housing: Housing contract numbers are up by 62 compared to the prior year, with new residential facilities ready for occupancy. Board Chair Davis confirmed 955 committed housing contracts and expressed optimism about the new facilities' positive effect on student retention. A new Director of Housing and Residence Life will begin on July 1.
- Student Health and Counseling: The Integrated Student Health Clinic continues to serve students consistently. Health services are maintaining utilization without a current counseling backlog.
- Veteran Student Outreach: Veteran student participation is growing overall, with targeted improvements planned for the Portland Metro campus.
- Summer Programming: Upcoming activities include two new residential orientation programs for incoming students, a 4th of July event, and a Klamath Tribes Youth Summit.

Trustee Neupert highlighted the value of comparative data on counseling service usage and encouraged participation in an upcoming meeting focused on local innovation ecosystems.

3.3 Strategic Enrollment Report *Associate Vice President of Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Success, Dr. Greg Stringer & Executive Director of Recruiting & Retention, Josephine Ness*

Dr. Stringer introduced **Josephine Ness** in her new role as Executive Director of Recruitment and Retention, a position created to integrate and align leadership across the student admissions journey. Ness then presented the strategic enrollment report.

- Fall 2026 Recruitment: First-year net deposits are up 9% compared to the same point in the prior cycle, though higher summer melt is anticipated.
- New Initiatives: A dual credit direct admission program and the Golden Horizon Scholarship are among new tools being deployed to strengthen recruitment pipelines.
- Retention: A revised staff advising model and an updated orientation program, New Wings, are being prepared to support incoming student retention.
- Trends and Considerations: Key external factors include the demographic cliff and growing interest in health sciences majors. A reduction in average student credit loads is under investigation.

Dr. Stringer described ongoing efforts to analyze and optimize remission levels. **Board Chair Davis** requested future details on average scholarship packages received by students to better understand affordability considerations.

4. **Action Items** *Co-Chairs Amuchastegui and Núñez*

4.1 New Option within BS in Geomatics: Unmanned Systems *Provost El-Rewini*

Provost El-Rewini presented a proposal to add an Unmanned Systems option to the existing Bachelor of Science in Geomatics program.

- The program is designed as a 2+2 model, with the first two years completed at a community college and the final two years at Oregon Tech. It would be the only four-year Unmanned Systems degree option in Oregon.
- The option leverages existing courses and faculty capacity, with no additional costs anticipated.
- Oregon Tech is coordinating with community college partners to develop Major Transfer Maps, with Memorandums of Understanding ready for signature.
- A presentation with slides will be prepared for the full Board meeting to explain the new program structure.

4.1.1 Action:

Co-Chair Núñez read the staff recommendation for approval of the new Unmanned Systems option within the BS in Geomatics program and authorization for the President or designee to follow up with relevant accreditation and state bodies. A motion was made by **Trustee Neupert** to recommend approval to the full Board. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Faks**. A roll call vote was conducted. Ayes: Amuchastegui, Núñez, Early, Faks, Neupert. Nays: none. The motion carried **unanimously**.

5. **Discussion Items** *Co-Chairs Amuchastegui and Núñez*

Co-Chair Núñez invited **Dean Neslihan Alp** and **Assistant Professor Ryan Cherrick** to bring forth the following discussion item:

Early Notification: Master of Business Administration with Artificial Intelligence (MBAi)

An informational presentation was provided on the early notification of a proposed MBAi program, a graduate business degree integrating artificial intelligence tools and competencies throughout the curriculum.

- The program is envisioned as fully online, completable within one year, with multiple entry points throughout the year and a 36-credit model.
- Oregon Tech has identified a market opportunity given the absence of a graduate business program at the institution. The program would be the first of its kind in the state.
- The State Provost Council has given unanimous approval to proceed with planning, with an expected launch in Fall 2027.
- Projected enrollment models are conservative, with a 90% retention rate anticipated.

No Board action was required at this stage. Further updates are expected as development progresses.

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6. **Other Business/New Business** *Co-Chairs Amuchastegui and Núñez*
   No new or other business was raised.

7. **Adjournment** at 11:56 AM
   There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Co-Chair Amuchastegui.

A recording of the meeting is available on the Oregon Tech website:
https://www.oit.edu/trustees/meetings-events/recordings

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3.1
Provost's Report

Academic Quality & Student Success (AQSS) Committee
AA-SEM Report
(Revised October 21, 2026)

I. Convocation 2026 Update

Day-1

- President's Address: Dr. Nagi Naganathan
  Lifting Oregon Tech Through the Headwinds
- Keynote Address: Dr. Nathan "Nate" Selden, Dean, School of Medicine and Executive Vice President, OHSU
  Accelerating the Future of Medical Education: Partnership, Innovation, and a New Vision for Oregon
- Strategic Plan Implementation: Provost El-Rewini, VP Clark, VP Fincher, SVP Harman
- OMIC R&D 10th Anniversary: Don Hendrickson
- Preparing for NWCCU Accreditation: Senior Vice Provost Afjeh

Day-2

- Provost Message: Dr. El-Rewini
  Reviving the University's Role in Creating a Better World
- Provost's Team Goals: Dean Alp, Dean Zhang, Senior Vice Provost Afjeh, Vice Provost Besel, Vice Provost McCreary, AVP Stringer
- Panels
  - Panel 1: Facilitator: Dr. Kyle Chapman
    Graduate Education at Oregon Tech: New Directions and Opportunities
  - Panel 2: Facilitator: Dr. Ken Fincher
    University Advancement: Brand Alignment and Strategic Fundraising
  - Panel 3: Facilitator: Dr. KC Santosh
    The Use of AI in Polytechnic Higher Education
  - Panel 4: Facilitator: Dr. Kari Lundgren
    Summer Reading: The Caring University

II. Project-61 – Medford Collaboration with RCC

Oregon Tech and Rogue Community College (RCC) signed an MOU to establish a new location and partnership for the already existing Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering Technology (MfgET) program. Establishing a 2+2 pathway, RCC students will complete their first two years at an RCC campus. Admitted students will then complete their Oregon Tech degree requirements in the second two-year period with Oregon Tech faculty delivering upper-division courses in Medford.

Manufacturing engineering technology is essential to produce a variety of consumer and industrial goods, ranging from airplanes and dialysis machines to designer jeans and off-road vehicles. Although courses related to manufacturing engineering technology are offered at a variety of institutions, currently, Oregon Tech offers the only accredited Bachelor of Science in MfgET degree in the state.

Graduates of the Bachelor of Science in MfgET program apply their theoretical understanding to improve manufacturing systems and processes, thereby increasing overall productivity. Students learn to function as effective team leaders and collaborators in

manufacturing environments to accomplish organizational objectives. Graduates are likewise well positioned to be lifelong learners in manufacturing contexts.
In addition to the Bachelor of Science in MfgET program, Oregon Tech and RCC will explore additional 2+2 programs soon (B.S. degrees in Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, Unmanned Systems, Electronics Engineering Technology, and Information Technology). The purpose of this new partnership is to eliminate barriers for students pursuing OIT four-year degrees, improve articulation between Oregon Tech and RCC, and enhance overall student success and retention while reducing time to degree completion.

III. Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering (MSME) Early Notification

- **Program Capacity and Resource Availability**

  Oregon Tech is well-positioned to launch the proposed Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering (MSME) program by leveraging its existing faculty expertise, facilities, and instructional capacity. The Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering (BSME) is currently the university's largest engineering program, with approximately 250 students enrolled. While current enrollment is a strength, the Manufacturing, Mechanical Engineering, and Technology (MMET) Department has demonstrated historical operational capacity in the 300 to 350 student range. This available capacity will allow the department to offer graduate-level courses without requiring significant additional faculty or infrastructure investments. Furthermore, the department has an increasing number of faculty members with Ph.D. degrees who are expected to engage in scholarly research. The MSME program will provide valuable opportunities for these faculty members to integrate graduate education with applied research, mentor graduate students, pursue external funding, and strengthen research productivity. Existing laboratories, equipment, and industry partnerships will further support the program's successful implementation.

- **Projected Student Demand and Enrollment**

  The proposed MSME program is expected to attract strong interest from current Oregon Tech undergraduate students, alumni, and working professionals seeking advanced engineering education. With approximately 250 students currently enrolled in the BSME program, Oregon Tech has an established internal pipeline of prospective graduate students, particularly those interested in the proposed accelerated 4+1 pathway, which would allow qualified students to earn both bachelor's and master's degrees in approximately five years. Faculty have already received inquiries from undergraduate students, local industry professionals, and community college partners regarding graduate opportunities in mechanical engineering. Based on this existing interest and anticipated regional workforce demand, the program conservatively projects 10 students in its first year (Fall 2027), increasing to 26 in Year 2, 29 in Year 3, and 33 in Year 4. These projections reflect a gradual and sustainable enrollment growth strategy supported by Oregon Tech's established undergraduate programs, strong industry connections, and the increasing demand for advanced technical expertise. The 4+1 pathway is expected to serve as a particularly important recruitment and retention strategy, encouraging Oregon Tech students to continue their graduate education at the university rather than pursuing advanced degrees elsewhere.

IV. Provost Leadership Academy (PLA)

This program is designed to prepare faculty and staff for future leadership opportunities and will serve as a training ground for junior and mid-career employees who aspire to leadership positions at Oregon Tech and beyond. Modules include:

- Strength Finder
- Team Building
- People, Culture, and Politics
- Emotional Intelligence
- Strategic Planning

Participants who successfully complete the program will receive a certificate of completion.
The following table shows the names of the participants who have been accepted in the first cohort of the program:

Participant	Department	Job Title
Victoria Seward	Business Affairs	Assistant Director
Christopher Syrnyk	Honors Program	Executive Director
Praveen Guraja	Applied Computing & Geomatics	Assistant Professor
Daniel Ngugi	Management	Chair
Jared Masl	Facilities Services	Technician
Noah Etchemendy	Information Technology Services	Consultant 2
Stacie Neely	DH Dental Hygiene	Assistant Professor
Gabriel Castro	Student Affairs	TOP Advisor
Marybeth Grant-Beuttler	Physical Therapy	Interim Chair
Brandy Nightingale	Academic Advising & Retention	Academic Advisor
Rebeka Yocum	Civil Engineering	Assistant Professor
Ashton Greer	Civil Engineering	Associate Professor
Chitra Venugopal	Electrical Engineering & Renewable Energy	Associate Professor
David Hammond	Mathematics	Professor
Victoria Inogamova	Finance and Administration	Director of Budget and Planning
Carrie Dickson	Academic Affairs	Director of Online Learning
Lara Pracht	Academic Affairs	Director
Emily Gustafson-Plummer	Dental Hygiene	Senior Instructor I

V. Faculty and Chairs Professional Development

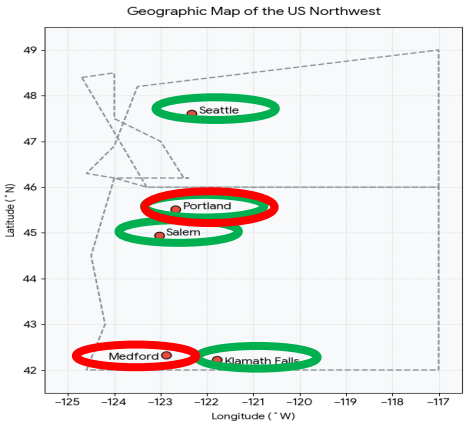
- Mentoring: 15 mentor-mentee pairs have been established. Mentor check-ins are being conducted throughout November, with mentee check-ins to follow. Winter events are also being planned.
- Department Chair Training: Positive feedback has been received to date. The program provides regular opportunities for leadership reflection while supporting the development of new duties and responsibilities.

VI. Medical School Efforts

- Relationship-building efforts and discussions aimed at fostering meaningful collaboration to address the shortage of primary care physicians in rural Oregon continued between Oregon Tech and OHSU senior leadership for over a year. These discussions took place at the highest levels and included OHSU's President, Provost, Dean and Senior Associate Dean of the Medical School, Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, and several others.
- OHSU/OT Joint Exploring Team completed its work during Winter & Spring 2026. The Oregon Tech participants are Hesham El-Rewini, John Harman, Michelle Preston, and Erin Gonzales (Sky Lakes), and the OHSU participants are Kelly Caverzagie, Dana Director, and Elaine King. Gaylyn Maurer is serving as coordinator and project manager.
- The month of October has seen stronger alignment between the visions of Oregon Tech and OHSU, creating a solid foundation for meaningful collaboration.
- More details will be included in President Naganathan's report to the full board.

VII. Strategies to Increase Enrollment

	Existing Programs	New Programs
Existing Markets	Market Penetration	Program Development
New Markets	Market Development	Diversification



- Adult learners
- Transfer students
- Working professionals
- Rural workforce development
- Course Only Flexible Graduate

VIII. Update on Recently Developed Programs

Major	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	Fall 2025	Fall 2026
Allied Health (BSAH)	NA	NA	20	62
Artificial Intelligence (BAI)	NA	NA	NA	12
Communication Leadership (KCOM) at Kingsley	NA	NA	NA	6
Construction Management (BCM)	NA	NA	6	25
Dental Hygiene (MSDH)	NA	NA	NA	21
Healthcare Leadership (MSHL)	NA	NA	NA	11
Physical Therapy (DPT)	8	21	27	34

IX. Fall 2026 Enrollment Report

- Admissions and Educational Partnerships (EPO) continue to drive early engagement and first-year matriculation for the university.
- Oregon Tech is proud to welcome the largest incoming freshman class in its history - 585 new students
- 50% increase over last year in New Graduate and First Professional students.
- Dual credit shows strong sustainability and manageable growth.

Headcount without Dual Credit

	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	4th Week
Fall 2024	2,962	3,047	3,089	3,163	3,192	3,214	3,215
Fall 2025	3,057	3,185	3,215	3,303	3,340	3,357	3,328
Fall 2026	3,067	3,129	3,178	3,230	3,245	3,245	
% Change (Prior Year)	0.3%	-1.8%	-1.2%	-2.2%	-2.8%	-3.3%	

Credit Hours without Dual Credit

	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	4th Week
Fall 2024	35,296	36,271	36,722	37,480	37,407	37,209	37,064
Fall 2025	37,126	37,754	37,948	38,510	38,287	37,848	37,654
Fall 2026	36,196	36,712	37,069	37,560	37,269	36,694	
% Change (Prior Year)	-2.5%	-2.8%	-2.3%	-2.5%	-2.7%	-3.0%	

Headcount with Dual Credit

	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	4th Week
Fall 2024	2,982	3,212	3,701	4,276	4,815	5,216	5,302
Fall 2025	3,227	3,602	3,999	4,532	5,025	5,384	5,444
Fall 2026	3,149	3,327	3,651	4,211	4,791	5,343	
% Change (Prior Year)	-2.4%	-7.6%	-8.7%	-7.1%	-4.7%	-0.8%	

Credit Hours with Dual Credit

	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	4th Week
Fall 2024	35,374	36,859	39,145	41,833	43,889	45,190	45,370
Fall 2025	37,874	39,572	41,458	43,928	45,573	46,606	46,667
Fall 2026	36,531	37,514	39,262	41,993	44,083	45,925	
% Change (Prior Year)	-3.5%	-5.2%	-5.3%	-4.4%	-3.3%	-1.5%	

X. Fall 2025 to Fall 2026 First-Year Retention Report

Retention Fall 2023 Cohort Returning Fall 2024

	Started	Retained	% Retained
New Freshmen (Full-Time)	403	278	69.0%
New Transfers (Full-Time)	232	187	80.6%
New Post Bac (Full-Time)	36	30	83.3%
Total	671	495	73.8%

Retention Fall 2024 Cohort Returning Fall 2025

	Started	Retained	% Retained
New Freshmen (Full-Time)	492	354	72.0%
New Transfers (Full-Time)	236	194	82.2%
New Post Bac (Full-Time)	40	34	85.0%
Total	768	582	75.8%

Retention Fall 2025 Cohort Returning Fall 2026

	Started	Retained	% Retained
New Freshmen (Full-Time)	501	337	67.3%
New Transfers (Full-Time)	231	190	82.3%
New Post Bac (Full-Time)	34	30	88.2%
Total	766	557	72.7%

XI. Fall 2027 Application Cycle - Early Status

- Current applications are trailing last year's submission cycle. Fall 2027 applications are down 36% from last year but exceed those of the 2025 and 2024 cycles.
- We are monitoring regional and national trends, and this seems to be a settling back to the normal growth trend.
- Deposits are holding and are up 14% at this very early stage.
- Deposits lagged in last year's cycle while culminating in a record-setting entry class.
- More information will be available for future board meetings

3.2

Student Affairs Report

Academic Quality & Student Success Committee Report – Division of Student Affairs

Oregon Tech Athletics

Facilities and Student Recreation

The Kip Thomet Memorial Fieldhouse is expected to open during the fall term. Turf installation and restroom construction are complete, and exterior improvements are nearing completion. TechRec has been operating since June, providing students with an on-campus recreation facility. Together, these facilities provide opportunities for student recreation, wellness, athletic training, and campus engagement. Oregon Tech extends its appreciation to Jim Johnston and National Fitness for supporting students during the 2025–2026 academic year while restoration work was underway in the TechRec.

Academic Achievement

All 13 Oregon Tech intercollegiate teams earned NAIA Scholar Team recognition for maintaining cumulative GPAs of 3.00 or higher. Every team posted a GPA of at least 3.30, and the department achieved a GPA of 3.48 for the spring term of 2026. These results reflect the continued commitment of student-athletes, coaches, and athletics staff to academic achievement and student success.

Competitive Highlights

Fall teams opened the season with several notable competitive accomplishments:

- **Women's golf:** Ranked No. 19 in the NAIA, the team earned a team victory at the Grisham Memorial Shootout in Washington and outlasted 11 NCAA teams.
- **Men's soccer:** Opened the season with a school-record eight-match unbeaten streak.
- **Women's soccer:** Completed seven consecutive road matches with a 4–3 record.
- **Volleyball:** Posted a 6–2 preseason record during tournaments in Hawaii and California.
- **Men's cross-country:** Received votes in the NAIA national poll.

Upcoming Events

Basketball competition begins in late October. The sixth annual Howard Morris Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony is scheduled for November 8, 2026. The 2026 class includes the 2004 men's basketball team and individual inductees Levell Hesia, Megan Albertson, Nikki McElligott, and Michelle Klaja.

The Basic Needs Hub

The Basic Needs Hub expanded support across both campuses through two staffing assignments. A Student Involvement and Belonging/Basic Needs Coordinator is now based in the Portland-Metro area, and the Assistant Director of Student Involvement and Belonging has assumed Basic Needs responsibilities in Klamath Falls. This model increases awareness of available resources, improves access to support, and reduces response times for students.

From the start of the fall term, the Basic Needs staff recorded 14 support contacts across four areas of need:

- **Housing insecurity:** 3 contacts
- **Health insurance needs:** 2 contacts
- **Food insecurity:** 7 contacts
- **Overall financial insecurity:** 2 contacts

Fall term priorities for Basic Needs and benefits navigation include:

- **Recruit and hire** student employees to support Basic Needs services at the Klamath Falls campus.
- **Increase visibility and awareness** of benefits navigation services at the Portland-Metro campus.
- **Build relationships** with community organizations to expand referral options and resources for students at both campuses.

Career Services

Career Services is strengthening career readiness by expanding access to coaching, integrating career resources into the student experience, developing a clearer picture of internship participation, and connecting students with employers across both campuses.

Career Technology and Resources

Career Services has transitioned from the Quinncia AI platform to an automated résumé-review service integrated with Handshake, Oregon Tech's online career management system. Because students already use Handshake to access career opportunities and resources, the integrated service is expected to provide a more seamless and intuitive experience.

Accessibility and Inclusive Employment

In partnership with Disability and Testing Services, Career Services helped establish Oregon Tech as a registered site for the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP), a U.S. Department of Labor program that connects eligible college students and recent graduates with

disabilities to federal internship and permanent employment opportunities. Career Services and Disability and Testing Services will coordinate outreach and support for participating students.

Career Readiness and Campus Collaboration

Career Services is expanding career-readiness programming through faculty and campus partnerships. In collaboration with the MIT department chair and faculty, the department hosted an MIT/Industry Panel and Networking Lunch on October 29, 2026, following the Healthcare Career Expo. Cassy Harter has also delivered a résumé and elevator-pitch workshop for CM 101 students and will introduce career-readiness practices to first-year students in ACAD 110.

Employer Engagement and Career Fairs

This fall, 94 employers are registered to recruit through career fairs at the Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro campuses. The Healthcare Career Expo reached capacity after operating 20% below capacity last fall. Demand for the Civil Engineering & Geomatics Career Fair remains strong, while employer participation in the Engineering, Technology & Management career fair is consistent with last year, amid continued challenges in the technology job market.

Fall 2026 Career Fair Schedule and Employer Registrations		
Location and Event	**Date**	**Employers**
Klamath Falls Civil Engineering & Geomatics Career Fair	October 21	30
Klamath Falls ETM Career Fair	October 22	24
Klamath Falls Healthcare Career Expo	October 23	24
Portland-Metro ETM Career Fair	October 23	16

College Union

During the summer of 2026, the College Union hosted two large groups in the facility, the Tule Lake Pilgrimage and the Klamath Tribes Youth Summit. The Tule Lake Pilgrimage was a multiday event that brought more than 350 people to campus and the College Union. The Klamath Tribes Youth Summit brought more than 50 high school students to campus in support of the university's memorandum of understanding with the Klamath Tribes. Both groups rented out several CU rooms, used dining services for meals, and stayed in on-campus housing as part of Oregon Tech's comprehensive conference options.

The following are revenue streams from external users of the College Union from late spring 2026 through early October 2026:

Summer 2026 Reservations		
Event	**Date**	**Revenue**
US Forest Service	May 21	$475.00
Tule Lake Pilgrimage	July 3–6	$11,000.00
Klamath Tribes Youth Summit	August 11–13	Oregon Tech Sponsored for CU Rooms
Klamath County Board of Commissioners	July 16	$115.00
Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs	September 9	$578.25
Department of Environmental Quality	October 3	$177.19

This fall, the CU has been a hub of activity for students. Seeing them all back and interacting, enjoying a meal, and studying is just a slice of the vibrancy one can feel across campus as the fall term is upon us. They are also enjoying the additional technology added to most lounge spaces last spring. Power stations throughout the facility are always in demand, and adding multiple towers with a variety of plug-in options in all the lounges is helping us meet students' needs.

Disability and Testing Services (DTS)

Service and Operational Improvements

During summer 2026, Disability and Testing Services (DTS) reviewed and updated departmental policies and procedures to strengthen service delivery, clarify operational practices, and support timely access to accommodations and testing services. This work included updating the DTS Handbook, which is given and available to all students connected to DTS. DTS also participated in SOAR and New Wings to connect with incoming students and increase awareness of available resources before the start of the fall term.

So far this fall term 2026, the DTS staff has 225 students connected to the office, up from 197 during the fall term 2025. This increase reflects the growing number of new and returning students, as well as the outreach the DTS team has been conducting to raise awareness of the services they provide.

Student Outreach and Campus Partnerships

In October, DTS led awareness initiatives to connect students with disability-related information and campus resources. On October 5, 2026, DTS partnered with the Veterans Resource Center to recognize American Veterans Disabled for Life Awareness Day and share resources for disabled veterans. On October 7 and 8, 2026, DTS collaborated with Career Services for National Disability Employment Awareness Month, highlighting inclusive

employment resources and the Workforce Recruitment Program for eligible students and recent graduates with disabilities. On October 20, 2026, DTS recognized ADHD and Dyslexia Awareness Month by providing educational materials and information about campus support. These partnerships broaden awareness of available services and help students connect disability access with academic success, career readiness, and full participation in the university experience.

Housing and Residence Life

Housing and Residence Life expanded residential capacity and student support during summer and fall 2026 through the opening of The Timbers, new departmental leadership and staffing, summer conference partnerships, and the coordination of fall move-in operations. The Timbers Opening and Operations

Klamath County issued the Certificate of Occupancy for The Timbers on June 12, 2026, and the building was formally transferred to Oregon Tech on June 19, 2026. Throughout June, July, and August of 2026, the facility hosted campus and community groups before welcoming Oregon Tech residents for the fall 2026 term.

Oregon Tech Facilities and Housing and Residence Life continue to work with the general contractor, Bogatay, to track and resolve punch-list items and warranty issues identified by summer conference guests and during the building's occupancy. These partners continue to monitor open items and prioritize matters affecting residents.

Housing and Residence Life will host an open house for The Timbers on November 7, 2026, for donors, alums, campus members, and community guests to see the building and interact with residents to learn about their experiences with The Timbers.

Summer Conferences and Partnerships

Incoming students attending the June and July New Wings events were invited to stay overnight in The Timbers, returning to an on-campus residential experience during this campus visit. More than 200 students registered for housing at each event. Feedback from students and families indicated that the experience increased familiarity with campus, supported roommate connections, and helped incoming students build relationships before the fall term.

During the July 4 weekend, the Tule Lake Pilgrimage returned to Oregon Tech for its biennial gathering. Housing and Residence Life hosted 350 guests in The Timbers and Village Apartments for three nights. Professional and student staff supported transportation, guest services, and event operations throughout the weekend.

Housing and Residence Life also established a year-round partnership with Kingsley Field to provide lodging during drill weekends when on-site capacity is unavailable. The partnership

uses otherwise unoccupied space on the third floor of the Residence Hall and supports more consistent utilization of residential facilities.

In collaboration with the Klamath Tribes and Oregon Tech's DICE Office, Housing and Residence Life hosted student participants and chaperones in The Timbers for the Klamath Tribes Youth Summit.

Staffing and Organizational Capacity

Steve Giordano joined Oregon Tech as Director of Housing and Residence Life at the end of July. He has six years of experience as an executive director of university housing and is leading the department as it integrates The Timbers into residential operations.

Courtney Dentinger was promoted to Lead Residence Life Coordinator after four years of service in Housing and Residence Life. Two Residence Life Coordinator positions remain in recruitment, and we anticipate completing these hirings in the fall term of 2026. Filling these positions will provide more support to student staff, strengthen resident support and community development, and increase departmental capacity.

To support the additional facility, Housing and Residence Life hired one maintenance worker and three custodians during the summer. The department continuously evaluates current staffing to ensure the team can support timely work-order completion, building readiness, cleanliness, and resident needs across all facilities.

Fall Move-In and Occupancy

The official fall 2026 move-in day was September 26, 2026. Student and professional staff, supported by volunteers from across Oregon Tech, coordinated traffic flow and check-in for The Timbers and the university's existing residential facilities.

At the start of fall occupancy, Housing and Residence Life anticipated approximately 810 residents and moved in close to 800 students. Occupancy fluctuates during the opening weeks as some students reconsider living on campus or attending Oregon Tech. As of October 16, 2026, 775 students were residing in university housing. Official fourth-week figures will provide the next reporting point.

Oregon Tech Resident Housing		
Residence	**Students**	**Bed Capacity**
The Timbers	426	511
Village Apartments	255	264
Residence Hall*	94	500
Total	**775**	**1,275**

**The Residence Hall is being used as overflow housing. Although it can accommodate 500 students, rooms are currently offered as single rooms for students seeking a quieter community and privacy.*

For historical reference, the following table shows occupancy in on-campus housing for previous years.

Oregon Tech Resident Housing Historical Occupancy				
Year	Residence Hall	Village	Timbers	Total
Fall 2022	446	259	N/A	705
Fall 2023	435	256	N/A	691
Fall 2024	452	260	N/A	712
Fall 2025	474	259	N/A	733
Fall 2026	94	255	426	775

Housing and Residence Life is tracking students who did not show up to move in, post-move-in cancellations, and departures from Oregon Tech to better understand student decisions and identify opportunities for early intervention. The department is also increasing proactive outreach to incoming residents as they commit to Oregon Tech and campus housing. This work will support strategic communication, resident support, and retention strategies.

Fall 2026 Priorities

1. Recruit and onboard two Residence Life Coordinators during fall 2026.
2. Evaluate maintenance and custodial staffing during the fall term 2026 using work-order volume, response and completion times, facility readiness, and resident needs.
3. Review open punch-list and warranty items with Oregon Tech Facilities and Bogatay on a regular schedule, prioritizing issues affecting residents and documenting completion status.
4. Strengthen residential data collection by tracking students who did not show up to move in, midterm cancellations, departure reasons, occupancy trends, resident engagement, and program attendance.

Integrated Student Health Center

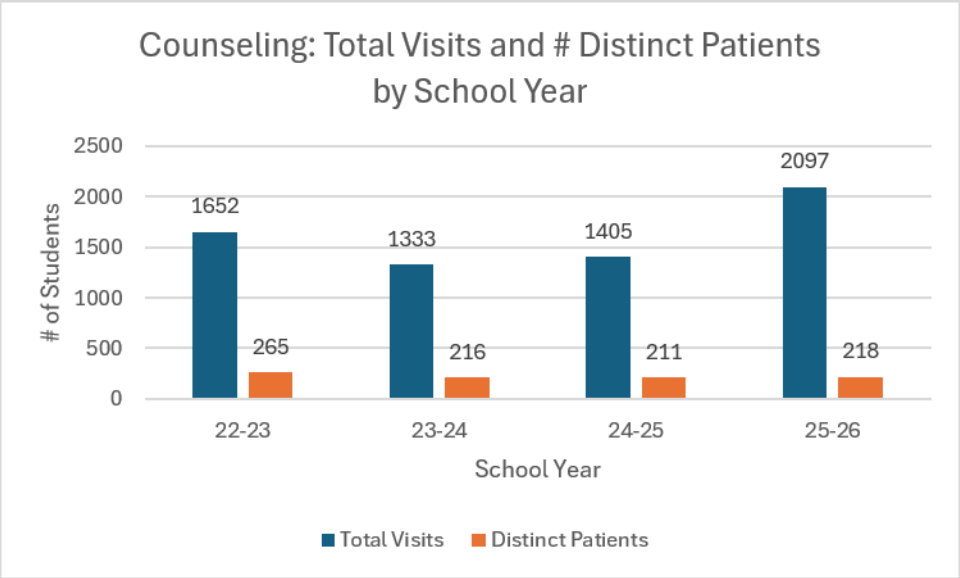
The Integrated Student Health Center (ISHC) is focused on maintaining access to counseling and medical care during staffing transitions, strengthening quality and documentation practices, planning for medical provider succession, and revitalizing health promotion programming. These efforts support student well-being, persistence, and academic success.

Counseling Services

The 2026–2027 academic year began with two counselor departures in August. The Clinic Director and remaining counselors implemented a plan to maintain access while recruitment proceeds for the vacant positions. A detailed screening process helps identify students whose needs may be appropriately supported by other ISHC providers, including

the health educator for concerns related to diet, sleep, and exercise, or by campus partners such as the Tech Opportunities Program and Disability and Testing Services. ISHC has also identified an external community partner as a contingency option for counseling referrals. During the vacancies, the center will continue to monitor caseloads, appointment wait times, urgent needs, and referral use to determine whether additional support is needed.

The following chart compares total counseling visits and distinct students served from 2022–2023 through 2025–2026. The 2025–2026 academic year had the highest total visit volume in the four-year period. The relationship between total visits and distinct students suggests that students may be using counseling services more frequently. After new counselors are hired and trained, ISHC plans to expand targeted outreach to increase awareness and access.

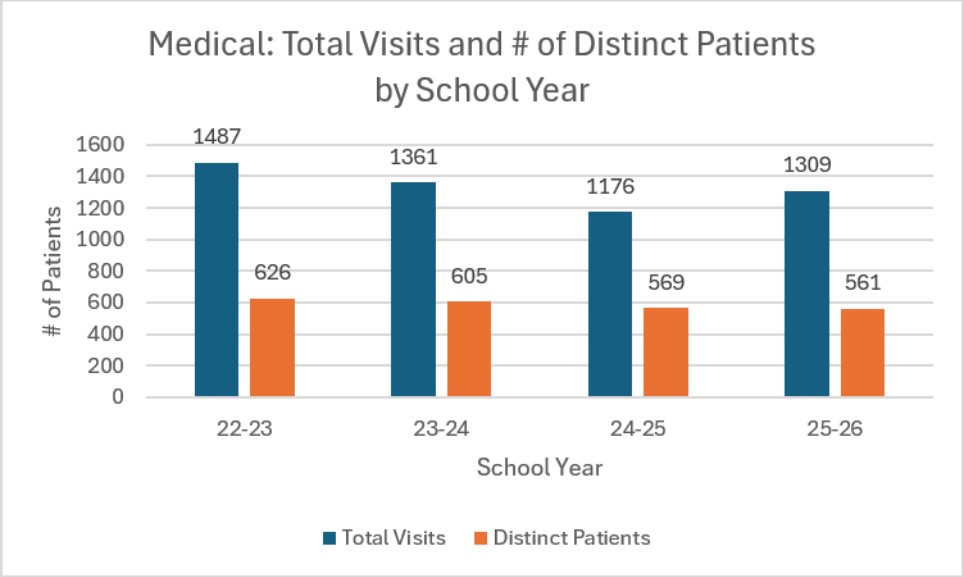


Counseling quality-improvement priorities include increasing the use of standardized measures to assess symptoms, functioning, or treatment progress and strengthening compliance with documentation standards. ISHC will use these results, along with access and utilization data, to inform clinical practice and program improvement.

Medical Services

ISHC is preparing for the retirement of part-time provider and Medical Director Kathie Lang, MD, in December 2027 and full-time provider Kellee Murga, RN, MSN, ACNS-BC, CNN, in October 2027. The Clinic Director and medical team have begun succession planning to maintain clinical leadership and medical coverage. Transition planning will continue during the fall term 2026, with recruitment scheduled to begin in January 2027.

The following chart compares total medical visits and distinct patients from 2022–2023 through 2025–2026. Total visits increased in 2025–2026 after declining during the prior two years, while the number of distinct patients was the lowest in the four-year period.

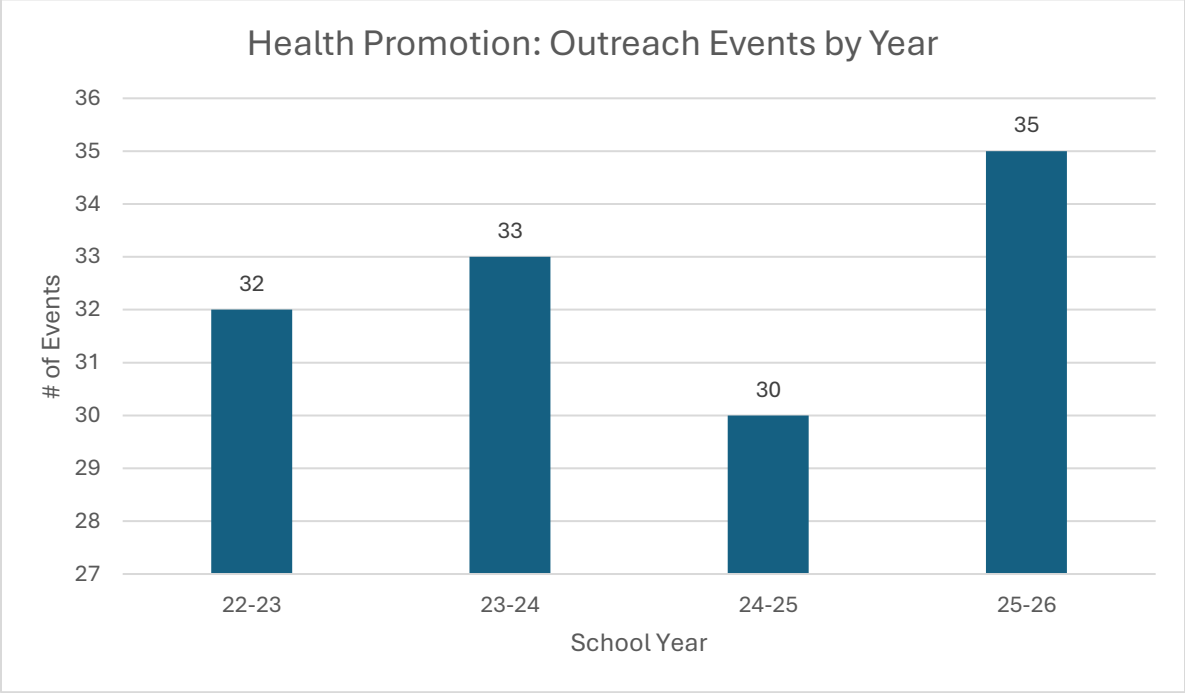


Medical quality-improvement priorities include increasing student participation in outreach, strengthening compliance with documentation standards, and monitoring access indicators, such as appointment wait times and availability of same-day or urgent appointments.

Health Promotion

ISHC began revitalizing its health-promotion program in winter 2025. The first phase will use focus groups to gather student perspectives on health priorities and preferred programming. The ISHC Director and Health Promotion Coordinator developed the focus-group plan and consulted with the Oregon Tech Institutional Review Board in spring 2026 to ensure compliance. The focus group meetings are expected to be completed by the end of fall 2026. The findings will guide the center's health-promotion strategy, outreach topics, and future programming.

The following chart compares the number of health-promotion outreach activities from 2022–2023 through 2025–2026. The 2025–2026 academic year had the highest number of activities in the four-year period.



Portland-Metro Student Services

Portland-Metro Student Services supports student connection, persistence, and professional development by coordinating campus resources, strengthening first-year support, and creating applied learning opportunities for student employees and leaders. This work complements the engagement programming led by Portland-Metro Student Involvement and Belonging by focusing on coordinated student support, access to resources, and career-readiness development.

Campus Partnership and Student Support

Assistant Dean of Students Josie Hudspeth co-facilitated the Portland-Metro Convocation for staff and faculty on September 17, 2026. The program combined community-building activities, departmental updates, and an interactive exercise designed to deepen understanding of the decisions and challenges students navigate and to strengthen faculty and staff awareness of student support and referral needs.

Portland-Metro Student Services is also supporting ACAD 110: ETM Freshman Seminar by providing an in-person Student Services presence throughout the term. Josie Hudspeth is available during class to answer questions, connect students with campus resources, and help address emerging support needs.

Student Employment and Leadership Development

Portland-Metro Student Services is expanding professional development for student employees and leaders through a Student Leader Training Series. Debbie Wall is guiding two student leaders in planning and delivering one conference-style training session each term. The series is designed to build community, encourage proactive leadership, and help students assess and articulate skills aligned with the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) career-readiness competencies.

On October 2, 2026, 25 student leaders participated in a five-hour training focused on equity and inclusion, professionalism, and teamwork. Future sessions will continue to develop NACE-aligned competencies and should incorporate participation rates, student feedback, and evidence of learning or skill development.

Career-Readiness Competencies

Portland-Metro Student Services guides student employees in ASOIT, Student Involvement and Belonging, and VA Work-Study through an annual self-evaluation based on the NACE competencies. The process is intended to help students recognize transferable skills developed through employment and connect those skills to future academic and career goals. This work directly supports the Student Affairs strategic goal that every student gain applied experience.

Student Affairs

Strategic Planning and Divisional Alignment

Student Affairs leaders and staff gathered for a three-day professional development retreat July 22-24, 2026. The retreat strengthened relationships across roles, developed a shared understanding of the new Student Affairs Strategic Plan, and aligned divisional priorities with the University Strategic Plan. The final half-day included campus partners in a role-playing exercise designed to deepen understanding of the student experience, common challenges students may encounter at Oregon Tech, and available resources.

Guest presenters connected the retreat's work to community building, employee development, and institutional branding. Heather Harter of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce addressed cultivating community; Amy Taylor of Human Resources discussed professional development and career advancement; and Ashley VanEssen of MarCoPa discussed how Student Affairs can contribute to University Strategic Plan Goal 10 and the university's branding efforts. The retreat produced the selected three-year divisional and department priorities shown in the following table and established owners, deadlines, and measures for implementation. Progress will be coordinated across Student Affairs, with each listed owner accountable for leading the assigned work.

Student Affairs Strategic Plan Goals and Actions

Student Affairs Strategic Plan Goals and Actions				
Strategic Goal	**Student Affairs Focus**	**Owner**	**Deadline**	**How We Will Measure Progress**
Goal 1: Grow and Diversify Enrollment	**SA Goal 1:** Increase track and field roster enrollment by 30 students while sustaining recruited student-athlete retention.	Athletics	Fall 2030	Annual roster counts, recruited student-athlete retention, and comparison to the current retention baseline.
Goal 1: Grow and Diversify Enrollment	**SA Goal 2:** Recruit and retain two international student-athletes across the 13 athletic programs.	Athletics	Fall 2028 initial target; fall 2030 full implementation	International student-athlete counts by program, annual roster data, and retention comparisons.
Goal 2: Maximize Retention and Graduation	**SA Goal 3:** Document the first three weeks' engagement for new Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro students and use the data for persistence outreach.	Office of Student Affairs/Deans	October 2026	The Roost engagement data, shared spreadsheet completion, identification of students needing outreach, and follow-up plans.

Strategic Goal	Student Affairs Focus	Owner	Deadline	How We Will Measure Progress
Goal 3: Ensure Every Student Gains Applied Experience	**SA Goal 4:** Implement a student employment self-evaluation process focused on transferable skills and career readiness.	Office of Student Affairs	Winter term 2028	Self-evaluation completion rates, student-reported skill gains, and resume or career plan updates.
Goal 8: Make Oregon Tech a Premier Place to Work	**SA Goal 5:** Create a division-specific onboarding process that includes an onboarding passport, a supervisor checklist, and a mentorship framework.	Goal 8 implementation team	May 2027	Completion of onboarding tools, tracking of onboarding milestones, and comparison of one-year retention for new staff.

Professional Development and Campus Partnerships

To kick off the new academic year, Student Affairs hosted a division-wide gathering as part of the university's Convocation activities, continuing its focus on professional development, divisional connection, and campus partnership. Also, during Convocation, the Dean of Students and Assistant Dean of Students presented to the College of Health, Arts, and Sciences and the College of Engineering, Technology, and Management during the colleges' dean-led meetings. Their sessions addressed crisis management and Report It, the university's process for reporting concerns about a student or campus situation.

First-Year Engagement and Retention

The Vice President for Student Affairs serves as executive sponsor for University Strategic Plan Goal 2: Maximize Retention and Graduation. In support of Strategy 2.2, Transform the First-Year Experience, 428 new students participated in fall 2026 SOAR programs designed to build connection and a strong network of support before classes began. Participants included 342 students at Klamath Falls and 86 at Portland-Metro. Student Affairs will compare the engagement and academic outcomes of SOAR participants with those of the broader incoming student population, including fall-to-winter persistence, fall-to-fall retention, credits attempted and earned during 2026–2027, academic standing, participation in campus activities, and documented connections with Student Affairs services.

Student Involvement and Belonging (SIB)

Student Involvement and Belonging (SIB) strengthens student connection, leadership development, campus engagement, and persistence through programs, student employment, peer mentoring, support for registered student organizations, digital communications, and welcoming spaces at the Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro campuses.

Klamath Falls Campus

During summer and fall 2026, SIB supported student connection through campus traditions, social programs, student employee development, training for registered student organizations, and community-based activities. SIB also received more than 17 requests for Hootie appearances at campus events, excluding athletic events.

The table below presents selected programs and participation figures; SOAR and Weeks of Welcome activities are not included.

Fall term 2026 Highlight Programs			
Event	**Date**	**Participation**	**Highlight**
Rocky Point	July 20, 2026	6	Provided a small-group outdoor recreation experience at Rocky Point, including kayaking and a boxed lunch from Brevada.
Welcome Back Bowling Night	September 21, 2026	76	Welcomed students back to campus through a low-cost social activity that included bowling, shoe rental, food, and beverages.
Student Worker Training	September 21–25, 2026	152	Training to review expectations, including four professional skills-building sessions.
SIB Lowkey Activities	September 29, 2026	15	Offered a low-barrier setting for creativity, reflection, relaxation, and informal peer connection.
Boost & Brews	September 30, 2026	151	Provided an informal opportunity for students to connect, customize a beverage, and take a break during the academic day.
RSO Finance Training	September 30, 2026	19	Finance/Budget Training for all registered student organizations.
Taste of Klamath	October 1, 2026	191	Connected students with local food and community partners through an accessible campus event.

Digital Engagement and Communications

Following a 167% increase in followers during the 2025–2026 academic year, SIB continues to expand its digital presence and connect students with opportunities, resources, and events. Two student employees support digital marketing through content development and audience engagement. SIB also continues to collaborate with MarCoPa on these communications initiatives.

The tables below summarize Instagram analytics for September 2026.

September Instagram Analytics: Audience and Reach					
Month	Total Views	Accounts Reached	Total Followers	Profile Visits	External Link Taps
September 2026	55,700	5,464	814	651	11

September Instagram Analytics: Content Engagement					
Month	Content Interactions	Likes	Shares	Saves	Reposts
September 2026	1,287	1,516	418	61	15

Note: Instagram reports likes and content interactions differently; interpret the figures of 1,516 and 1,287 separately.

No Instagram analytics were collected during July or August 2026.

Takeaway: September content generated 55,700 views, reached 5,464 accounts, and resulted in 651 profile visits.

A collaborative post with the Oregon Tech Volleyball Instagram account generated strong engagement and demonstrated the value of cross-campus partnerships in extending program visibility and reaching students.

Portland-Metro Campus

Summer Engagement and Retention

The Portland-Metro Summer Fun Series fostered community and supported student persistence from spring through fall through more than 10 events. Activities included on-campus programs, participation in Portland-area festivals, and the third annual Beach Trip. From fall 2025 through August 2026, SIB directly facilitated programs and supported registered student organizations in delivering a combined total of 380 campus events, a 33% increase over the prior academic year.

Student Employment and Peer Mentoring

During the summer, four SIB student employees remained engaged in paid work. They coordinated Summer Fun Series events and participated in training on project management tools, Microsoft Office, budget planning and analysis, marketing, team dynamics, and

identity, culture, and diversity. They also planned programs and activities for the 2026–2027 academic year. At the start of fall 2026, the SIBlings launched the W.I.S.E. (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaging) Owl Mentor initiative to provide peer connection and mentoring.

Veterans Resource Center

Led by Assistant Director of SIB Kim Faks, the Portland-Metro Veterans Resource Center relocated from the first floor to the fourth floor, increasing the space from 250 to more than 600 square feet. The larger space expands capacity for social and study activities, hands-on educational workshops, and collaboration with the Klamath Falls Veterans Resource Center via videoconferencing. The expansion also supported hiring four additional VA Work-Study student employees. Updated signage incorporates Portland-area design elements and recognizes Oregon Tech's history of serving veterans since 1947.

Commuter Student Engagement

Portland-Metro SIB is creating reasons for commuter students to remain on campus and participate between classes through welcoming spaces, accessible programs, and opportunities to build relationships. Planning considerations include the intended student outcome, the need to address, accessibility and participation, and evidence of impact. This approach is intended to strengthen commuter-student engagement, belonging, and persistence.

Tech Nest Store

The Tech Nest Store supports campus retail, digital sales, departmental purchasing, and access to Oregon Tech-branded merchandise for students, employees, families, and visitors.

Financial Performance

Current fiscal metrics reflect performance across core retail, departmental orders, and e-commerce channels:

- **Current year-to-date revenue (July 1 through the first week of October 2026):** $91,126.77
- **Prior-year revenue for the same period:** $65,724.57
- **Year-over-year growth:** $25,402.20 (38.65%)

Departmental Procurement

The Tech Nest Store has secured administrative support for the Departmental Procurement Memo and is preparing its operational rollout to the campus community.

Campus and Visitor Access

The Tech Nest Store is coordinating with campus partners to remain open during campus visit days, including weekends. This availability supports prospective-student visits, improves

access to Oregon Tech-branded merchandise for families and guests, and may generate additional retail sales.

Tech Opportunities Program (TOP) / TRIO Student Support Services

TOP entered the 2026–2027 academic year with a fully staffed advising team, 131 active participants progressing toward its federally funded service target of 160 students, redesigned transition and peer-mentoring programs, and improved student communication and operational systems. Together, these changes expand advising capacity, strengthen recruitment and student connection, and support more consistent program delivery and federal reporting.

Recruitment and Program Capacity

From June through October 6, 2026, TOP admitted 40 new students. After accounting for spring graduates and new admissions, the program is currently serving 131 active participants, representing approximately 82% of its federally funded service target of 160 students. TOP needs 29 additional active participants to reach full capacity. Recruitment efforts included coordinated outreach with Admissions and increased visibility during SOAR.

Since September 1, 2026, TOP has received 30 applications, compared with 14 applications during the same period in 2025, 6 in 2024, and 11 in 2023. This is a positive increase in applications that will help TOP reach as many eligible students as possible per the grant regulations.

The addition of a second TOP advisor in July 2026 brought the program to full staffing. The expanded team increases capacity for individualized advising, broadens recruitment coverage, supports timelier follow-up with applicants and current participants, and strengthens delivery of mentoring, workshops, and other program services. All current professional staff joined TOP within the past year and are establishing consistent practices for student support, communication, and program implementation.

Summer Bridge and Student Connection

TOP's redesigned Summer Bridge brought 12 incoming students, three student mentors, and three program staff to the Klamath Outdoor Science School. Outdoor activities and workshops with faculty and staff from the Integrated Student Health Center emphasized community, trust, and connection. Recognizing the volume of information students encounter upon entering college, TOP prioritized building relationships to help participants feel comfortable seeking guidance and accessing resources throughout the year. Early engagement is encouraging: all 12 participants have checked in with TOP and sought support since the Summer Bridge program.

The summer office reorganization and redesign were well-received, with positive student feedback. Students described the space as more welcoming and comfortable. Students are

actively using the office to connect with peers, access the lending library, and meet with staff. During SOAR, TOP opened the office as a low-stimulation "Reset Space," providing a quiet place to recharge, ask questions, and connect with resources. The response will inform similar offerings at future events.

Mentorship and Career Readiness

TOP is strengthening peer mentoring and career readiness by connecting student mentors with incoming participants and incorporating transferable-skill development into student employment and program activities.

Program Operations and Federal Compliance

Operational improvements included clearer TOP Emergency Funding and Grant Aid application processes and an ongoing partnership with the Registrar to streamline data transfers into Blumen, the TOP database, for participant tracking and federal reporting. TOP also received its 2026–2027 federal Grant Award Notification and, in collaboration with Sponsored Programs and Grant Administration (SPGA), submitted its budget for Department of Education review.

Veteran Student Services (VSS)

Veterans Resource Centers

Veteran Student Services began the 2026–2027 academic year after a summer of planning and upgrades to the Veterans Resource Centers (VRCs) at Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro. The Klamath Falls VRC was reconfigured to improve efficiency and comfort for student visitors, while the Portland-Metro VRC relocated to a larger space than its previous location. A ribbon cutting will take place to officially open the new VRC at Portland-Metro on November 14, 2026. As of October 6, 2026, the Klamath Falls VRC logged 131 visits during the first five days of the term. The Portland-Metro VRC is piloting an alternative attendance-tracking system using The Roost, with findings on its effectiveness to be included in a future report. These efforts support more effective use of the facilities and strengthen data collection for service planning.

Enrollment and Benefits Certification

As of this report, the VA education-beneficiary population, including veterans and their eligible dependents, is up 4% from the fall 2025 reporting period. A total of 197 students have been certified, and the reported number may increase as more students finalize their schedules and request certification of their benefits. Since 2023, this represents a 13% increase in military-connected enrollment.

Grant-Funded Improvements

The ODVA Campus Veteran Resource Center Grant award has been the primary funding source for improvements to the Portland-Metro VRC and supported new branding and wayfinding near the center on the fourth floor.

MarCoPa and Assistant Director of SIB Kim Faks developed branding and wayfinding near the Portland-Metro VRC to make the center easier for students, employees, and campus guests to find.

The Klamath Falls VRC was reconfigured using furniture donations and grant funding. Fresh paint and a revised layout improved the functionality and appearance of the student gathering space.

Additional grant-funded improvements will include an interactive display with capabilities comparable to equipment in the Portland-Metro VRC, supporting joint programming and intercampus collaboration among military-connected students.

Campus and Community Partnerships

In partnership with the College Union, Veteran Student Services hosted the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee's quarterly public meeting and town hall on September 9, 2026, in Klamath Falls. The event highlighted Oregon Tech's support for service members, veterans, and eligible family members.

Recognition and Visibility

The fall issue of US Veterans Magazine published a full-page article highlighting Oregon Tech's support for veterans. The following page reproduces the fall 2026 US Veterans Magazine feature highlighting Oregon Tech's support for military-connected students.

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OREGON TECH'S
LEGACY OF SUPPORTING MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF OREGON TECH



The 2026 SVA NATCON Gala



Don Stockton

Oregon Institute of Technology has supported military-connected students since its founding, when the institution began helping veterans returning from World War II prepare for civilian careers. Nearly eight decades later, that commitment continues to shape the university's approach to education, earning recognition as a 2026 Top Yellow Ribbon School.

Through career-focused academic programs and hands-on learning, Oregon Tech has created an environment where military-connected students can prepare for meaningful careers while building confidence along the way.

A LASTING LEGACY

According to Don Stockton, a Navy veteran and director of Veteran Services at Oregon Tech, supporting veterans has always been part of the university's identity.

"The first facilities that Oregon Tech took possession of were actually Marine Corps barracks designed to rehabilitate Marines coming back from the Pacific Theater," Stockton said. "In 1947, those assets were transferred to the state of Oregon and became the Oregon Vocational School to help transitioning veterans."

Over time, the institution evolved into today's Oregon Institute of Technology while maintaining its focus on preparing students for the workforce through applied education.

"Our history speaks for itself," Stockton said. "It is embedded in the DNA of this institution. It wasn't something that we thought to do a few years ago when it became politically convenient."

APPLIED LEARNING

As Oregon's polytechnic university, Oregon Tech emphasizes applied learning across engineering, health care, cybersecurity, software engineering and other STEM fields. Those programs often align naturally with the technical skills many veterans develop during military service.

"STEM education is a service in and of itself, and that's really something that speaks to veterans," Stockton said. "Many come out of the military wanting to expand on the technical education they already have."

Students gain experience through laboratory work, project-based learning and industry-connected training. Oregon Tech also offers specialized programs, including renewable energy engineering and opportunities in medical imaging and nursing partnerships.

The university's academic rigor challenges students, but Stockton believes that challenge helps prepare graduates for success long after college.

FINDING COMMUNITY

Academic preparation is only part of the veteran experience at Oregon Tech. The university also prioritizes belonging through Veteran Resource Centers on its Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro campuses.

The centers provide information on education benefits and certification, but Stockton said their greatest impact comes from the relationships students build there.

"It's really more about building community," Stockton said. "The students who are already on campus provide direct support to students who are incoming and create real friendships."

That peer-to-peer connection helps military-connected students navigate college while building a support network with others who understand their experiences.

LEADING TOGETHER

Veterans at Oregon Tech are encouraged to continue leading after military service. Through the Student Veterans Program, students take on leadership roles, manage veteran spaces and mentor their peers, often through paid VA Work-Study positions.

The university also supports participation in the Student Veterans of America National Conference and advocacy opportunities in Washington, D.C., and at the state and local levels. Those experiences help student veterans strengthen their leadership skills while demonstrating the value veterans bring to campus and beyond.

"Our student veterans become leaders within the classroom on projects," Stockton said. "The leadership that our veterans provide creates success for every student involved."

At Oregon Tech, supporting those who have served is more than a program. It is woven into the institution's history and reflected in the opportunities it provides military-connected students today.

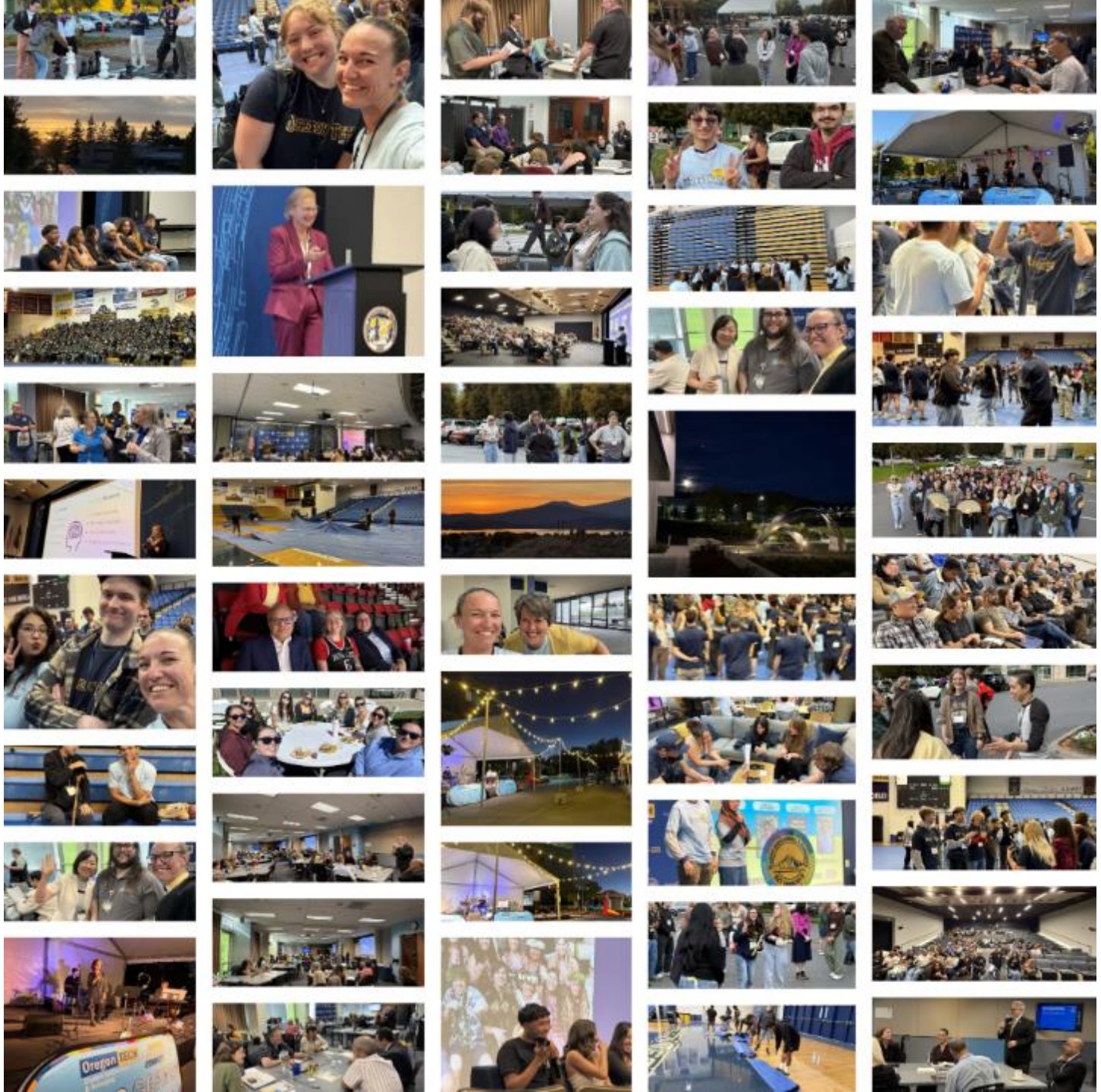
AQSS Student Affairs Report

Fall 2026

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Fall 2026



Student Affairs: overview

Fall 2026 highlights

Housing operating capacity

775 residents (October 10). Staff ready, working through facilities issues to support residents.

Health Center continuity

Counseling hiring follows two departures. Medical hiring starts January 2027.

TOP service target

131 of 160 participants (82%). Advisors are recruiting 29 more.

Athletics

All 13 teams earned NAIA Scholar Team recognition. Every team GPA is 3.30+.

Career Services

94 employer registrations across four fall career fairs.

Disability and Testing Services

225 students connected this fall, up from 197 in fall 2025.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Housing & Residence Life

Opening









Housing and Residence Life

Oregon Tech Housing Occupancy

As of October 10, 2026

Residence	Students	Bed Capacity
The Timbers	426	511
Village Apartments	255	264
Residence Hall*	94	500
Total	**775**	**1,275**

*The Residence Hall is being used as overflow housing. Although it can accommodate 500 students, rooms are currently offered as single rooms for students seeking a quieter community and privacy.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Housing and Residence Life

Oregon Tech Housing Historical Occupancy

Year	Residence Hall	Village	Timbers	Total
Fall 2022	446	259	N/A	705
Fall 2023	435	256	N/A	691
Fall 2024	452	260	N/A	712
Fall 2025	474	259	N/A	733
Fall 2026	94	255	426	775

Fall 2026 reflects October 10 occupancy. Official fourth-week figures are the next reporting point.

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Housing and Residence Life

The Timbers readiness and student support

The Timbers

Opened in June 2026
Hosted summer groups before fall residents

Resident-focused operations

Housing, Facilities and Bogatay track repairs and warranty issues affecting residents.

Community partnerships

The Timbers supported New Wings transition programs.

Tule Lake Pilgrimage brought 350 guests for three nights.

Kingsley Field and Klamath Tribes partnerships broaden campus lodging use.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
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Housing and Residence Life

Staffing and fall 2026 highlights

Expanded team capacity

A new director and lead coordinator strengthen Housing leadership.

One maintenance worker and three custodians expand operational capacity.

Fall priorities

1. Hire two Residence Life Coordinators.

2. Match staffing to work orders and resident needs.

3. Track punch-list and warranty completion.

4. Use occupancy and engagement data to guide outreach.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Integrated Student Health Center

Staffing continuity, service trends and priorities

Staffing continuity

Counseling recruitment follows two August departures. Screening and backup referrals support access.

Medical recruitment starts January 2027, ahead of two planned 2027 retirements.

2025–2026 service trends

Counseling visits and health promotion activity reached four-year highs.

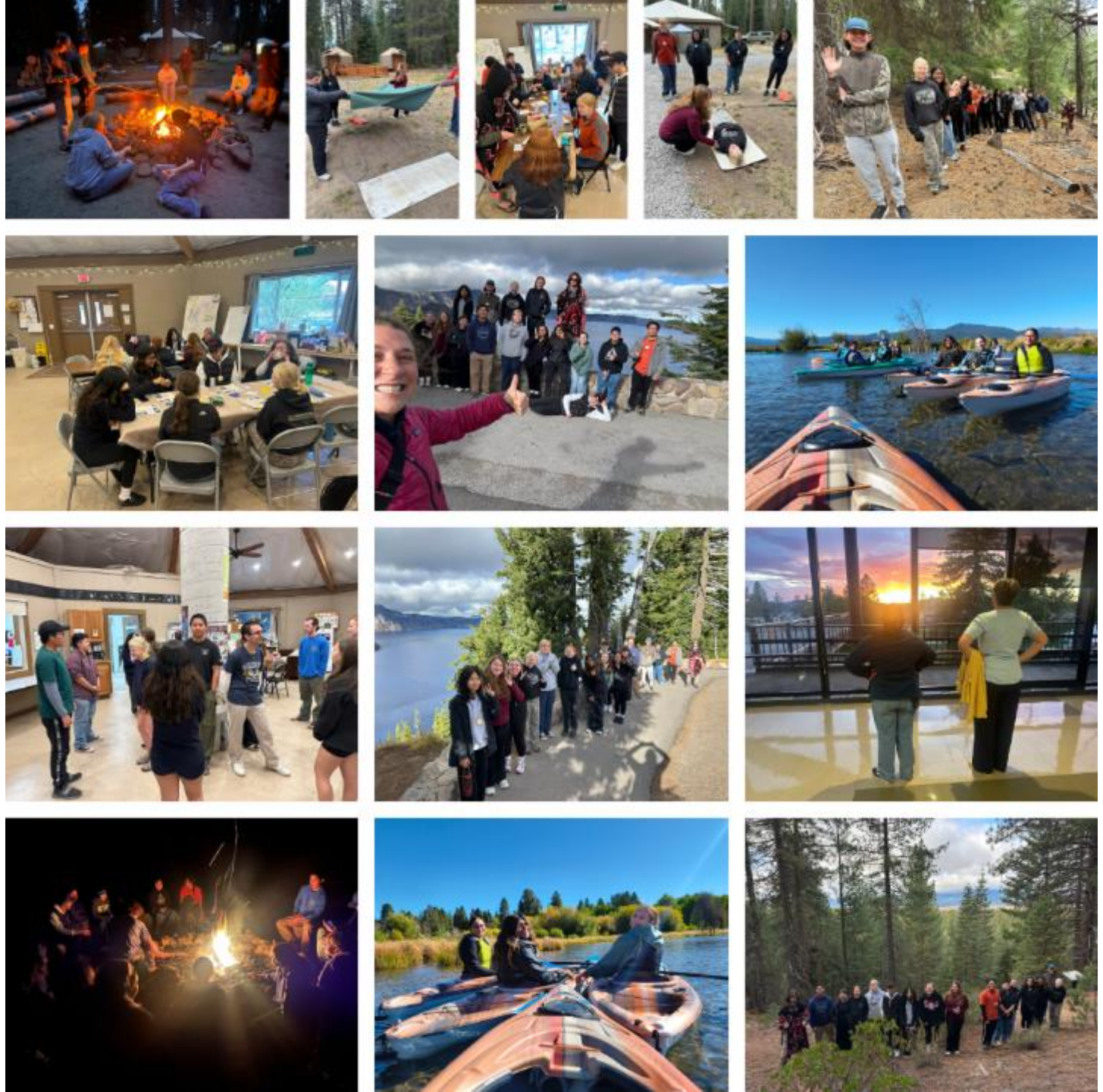
Medical visits rebounded, but distinct patients fell to a four-year low.

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TOP TRiO

Opening



Tech Opportunities Program (TOP)

Recruitment and advising capacity

131

active participants
About 82% of target (160)

29 more to reach capacity

40 new students admitted
June–October 6, 2026

Applications since September 1

Year	Applications
2026	**30**
2025	14
2024	6
2023	11

Same reporting period in each year

Two advisors fully staff TOP, expanding support and recruitment follow-up.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Tech Opportunities Program (TOP)

Student connection and program operations

12

Incoming students participated in Summer Bridge.

A transition program with outdoor activities and workshops that help new students build connections with peers and staff.

Welcoming spaces and peer support

The redesigned office, lending library and peer mentoring support student connection.

Clearer processes and federal reporting

Clearer aid applications and Registrar data transfers support participant tracking and federal reporting.

Federal award received. Budget submitted for Department of Education review.

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COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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Athletics

Fall 2026














Athletics

Facilities and academic achievement

13 of 13 teams

NAIA Scholar Team recognition

Every team GPA: 3.30 or higher
Recognition threshold: 3.00

3.48 department GPA

Spring term 2026

Kip Thomet Memorial Fieldhouse

Expected to open this fall

TechRec re-opened in June

TechRec restored for full student use after the 2025–2026 closure.

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Athletics

Fall competition and upcoming events

Women's golf	No. 19 NAIA ranking. Won Grisham Memorial Shootout, beating 11 NCAA teams.
Men's soccer	School-record eight-match unbeaten start.
Women's soccer	4–3 across seven consecutive road matches.
Volleyball	6–2 preseason record in Hawaii and California.
Men's cross-country	Received votes in the NAIA national poll.

Basketball begins in late October

Nov. 8, 2026: Sixth annual Howard Morris Athletic Hall of Fame

Inductees include: 2004 men's basketball team, Levell Hesia, Megan Albertson, Nikki McElligott and Michelle Klaja

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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Basic Needs Hub

Support across both campuses

14

support contacts since the start of fall term

Areas of need

7 food insecurity
3 housing insecurity
2 health insurance
2 financial insecurity

Staffing across both campuses

Portland-Metro has a SIB/Basic Needs Coordinator. In Klamath Falls, the SIB Assistant Director has assumed Basic Needs responsibilities.

Fall priorities

Hire student employees in Klamath Falls.
Raise benefits navigation awareness in Portland-Metro.
Expand community referral partnerships.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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Career Services

Career readiness and access

Career technology

Handshake résumé review replaces Quinncia.

Workforce Recruitment Program

Federal jobs and internships for eligible students and graduates with disabilities.

Campus partnerships

Industry engagement connects students with employers.

Résumé and pitch workshops complement planned ACAD 110 programming.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Career Services: employer engagement

94 employer registrations across four fall career fairs

Campus and Career Fair	Employers
Klamath Falls: Civil Engineering & Geomatics	30
Klamath Falls: Engineering, Technology & Management	24
Klamath Falls: Healthcare Career Expo	24
Portland-Metro: Engineering, Technology & Management	16

Healthcare at capacity

Last fall: 20% below capacity.

Civil & Geomatics

Employer demand remains strong.

ETM remains steady

Matches last year despite tech job-market challenges.

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College Union

Campus engagement and reservation revenue

350+ participants

Tule Lake Pilgrimage

50+ high school students

Klamath Tribes Youth Summit

$12,345.44

Revenue from event reservations
May–October 2026

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Disability and Testing Services

225

students connected to DTS this fall

197 in fall 2025
28 more students

Service improvements

Updated policies and handbook support timely accommodations and testing.

Student outreach

SOAR and New Wings connected incoming students with DTS.

Access and employment partnerships

Joint outreach with VRC and Career Services connects students to resources and employment.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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Portland-Metro Student Services

Student support and career readiness

25

student leaders trained

Fall 2026

Training emphasized teamwork and professionalism.

First-year support

ACAD 110 connects first-year students to campus resources.

Student-led training each term

Student leaders design and deliver NACE-aligned training.

Applied experience to career skills

Annual self-evaluations help student employees identify transferable skills.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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Student Involvement and Belonging

Klamath Falls: programs and digital engagement

Selected summer and fall programs

Program	Participants
Rocky Point	6
Welcome Back Bowling	76
Student Worker Training	152
SIB Lowkey Activities	15
Boost & Brews	151
RSO Finance Training	19
Taste of Klamath	191
Total attendance	**610**

Excludes SOAR and Weeks of Welcome

September Instagram

55,700

views

5,464 accounts reached
651 profile visits
814 followers

More than 17 Hootie requests, excluding athletics

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COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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Student Involvement and Belonging

Portland-Metro: community and student leadership

380 campus events

SIB and RSO programs
Fall 2025–August 2026
33% above the prior academic year

Support for Veterans Resource Center Move

Expanded from 250 to 600+ sq. ft., with four additional VA Work-Study employees.

Summer and peer connection

W.I.S.E. Owl mentoring launched this fall with support from four paid student staff.

Commuter belonging

Welcoming spaces and accessible programs connect students between classes.

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IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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Tech Nest

Year-to-date revenue increased 38.65%

$91,126.77

Current YTD revenue
July 1–first week of October 2026

Prior year: $65,724.57

Same reporting period

Increase: $25,402.20

Departmental procurement

Process memo has administrative support. Campus rollout is in preparation.

Campus and visitor access

Coordinating visit-day and weekend hours to improve access for prospective students and guests.

COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
CHARACTER GUIDES.
IMPACT MULTIPLIES.

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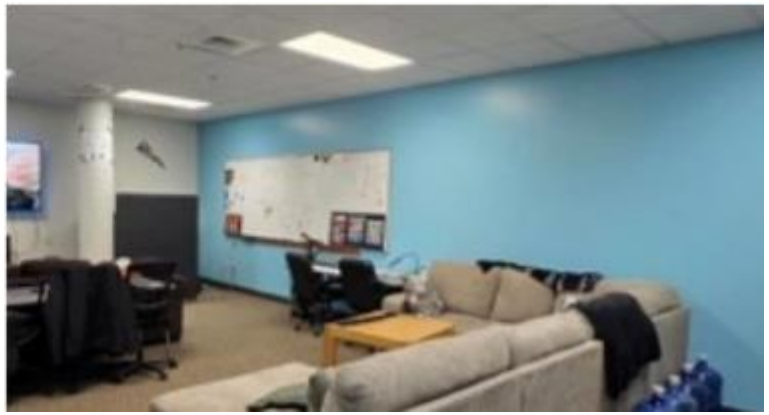
VRC

Updates









Veteran Student Services

Fall 2026 enrollment and resource center updates

197

students certified for VA education benefits

Beneficiary population up 4% from fall 2025

Military-connected enrollment up 13% since 2023

Klamath Falls VRC

131 visits in the first five days of term, as of October 6. Redesigned space improves access.

Portland-Metro VRC

Larger center with ODVA-funded improvements. Roost attendance tracking pilot underway.

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Priorities and next milestones

Capacity, continuity, and progress toward service targets

Housing and Residence Life

Fourth-week occupancy checkpoint. Coordinator hiring, student support and facilities work.

Athletics

Kip Thomet Memorial Fieldhouse expected to open this fall.

Student Health

Medical hiring starts January 2027. Counseling hiring and access monitoring continue.

Career Services

ACAD 110 career programming planned, complementing résumé and pitch workshops.

TOP

Proposed update: progress toward 160 participants and applicant follow-up. Date to be confirmed.

Veteran Student Services

Portland-Metro VRC is piloting Roost attendance tracking in its expanded center.

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COMPETENCE EQUIPS.
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Questions?

Thank you!

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