

POSITION	TERM	NAME	DEPARTMENT/DIVISION
Chair – Senior Instructor 1	2024-27	Don DaSaro	Business Management
SVP of Finance & Administration	2025-26	John Harman	Finance and Administration
Provost	2025-26	Hesham El-Rewini	Academic Affairs
VP of Student Affairs	2025-26	Mandi Clark	Student Affairs
Vice Provost	2025-26	Abdy Afjeh	Academic Affairs/Research
Administrative Council Representative	2025-26	Carleen Drago Starr	Educational Part. & Outreach
AVP Financial Operations/Controller	2025-26	Alicia Dillon	Finance and Administration
Senate Executive Representative	2025-26	Ashton Greer	Faculty Senate
Vice President – University Advancement	2025-28	Ken Fincher	University Advancement
Director, Budget & Planning	2023-26	Victoria Inogamova	Budget/Planning Office
Director of Academic Affairs	2023-26	Lara Pracht	Academic Affairs
Professor	2025-28	Andria Fultz	Communication
Associate Professor	2024-27	Krista Beaty	Dental Hygiene
Professor	2025-28	Robyn Wilde	Physics
Assistant Professor	2024-27	Riley Richards	Communication
ASOIT President, Klamath Falls des.	2025-26	Isaiah Payne	Student Government
ASOIT President, Portland-Metro	2025-26	Ted Mastrangelo	Student Government
Executive Assistant	2025-26	Celia Green	Finance and Administration

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Don DaSaro, John Harman, Hesham El-Rewini, Mandi Clark, Abdy Afjeh, Carleen Drago Starr, Alicia Dillon, Ashton Greer, Victoria Inogamova, Krista Beaty, Robyn Wilde, Riley Richards, Isaih Payne, Ted Masterangelo, Celia Green, Michelle Meyer, Victoria Seward, Jakob Lovern

Meeting call to order – Chair DaSaro called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.

1. Approval of January 14, 2026, Meeting Minutes – Chair DaSaro requested a motion to approve the January 14th meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded. The minutes were approved.
2. Review February 2026 Management Report – SVP Harman reviewed the presentation materials.
 - a. SVP Harman shared additional information regarding Providence health insurance. Current employee coverage is not at risk as it is under contract through December. Providence may no longer be an available option during the next open enrollment period in October. Sarah Henderson-Wong will provide more information as the situation evolves.
 - b. The budget is expected to be close to breakeven for the current fiscal year. Departments should be vigilant with year-end spending, and refrain from spending remaining budget on supplies that are not needed. Purchase deadlines are earlier this year due to the Banner reimplementation, and last-minute requests will not be accommodated as they have been in years past.
3. Review Q2 Investment Report – SVP Harman reviewed the data in the report.

- a. There has been positive market performance, which has increased the quasi-endowment fund over the last few years, so it is close to recovering its original 2016 value of \$7.6 million.
4. 2026 Legislative Short Session Insights- SVP Harman stated that the state legislative session concluded with a mixed financial outlook, but that higher education funding was not reduced for the current biennium.
 - a. The state has messaged that the 2027-29 biennium consolidated budget request from the public universities should request continuing service level (CSL) to cover only ongoing operational costs. This metric disadvantages higher education. The state uses a CSL model for agency budget requests, but this does not consider some inflationary factors unique to higher education, and which has historically resulted in a 2-3% funding under university base budget (UBL) which more fully projects growing expenses in the public universities. For example, the seven public universities previously requested a 9.5% increase to cover growth in benefits and inflationary costs. The state only funded 7%. For the next biennium, the universities' calculated need is 8.53%, but the HECC will likely reduce it to align with the state agency budget of 6 – 7%. Additionally, the state projects no significant growth in revenues for the next five to ten years for the state budget.
 - b. In response to financial struggles at several state universities, the legislature has mandated a study on the long-term financial sustainability of the public universities. The HECC released a financial report highlighting struggles at some state universities, including SOU and PSU. This report led to HB 4124. Per the bill, a study will be conducted on what is needed to make the seven public universities financially sustainable over the next 10 – 15 years. Oregon Tech is currently in a steady financial position, but the university needs to retain its focus on strategic planning and careful investment.
5. Review updated FY2026-27 Budget Planning – The university's budget planning scenario has been updated to project a balanced budget without using reserves, incorporating new information on enrollment, tuition rates, state funding, and cost adjustments.
 - a. The budget plan has been revised since the last presentation at TRC. Enrollment is projected to increase by 1% and state funding will not be reduced, which results in a small increase in revenue. We receive 51% of the state appropriation in the second year of the biennium. Finalized numbers from the SEIUM CBA may not be known until late summer.
 - b. To achieve a balanced budget without using reserves, the previously approved five-year strategic marketing investment of approximately \$425,000 per year will be reduced by about 50%. Additionally, around \$400,000 in reductions will be taken proportionately across all divisions. Dr. Nagi has required that cuts will not result in eliminating currently filled positions.
 - c. A question was raised about why the university is reducing budgets rather than using reserves. The President believes the gap is manageable without reserves and chose this approach to demonstrate fiscal discipline and maintain strong standing with the state. The reductions are small enough to avoid risking academic lines or eliminating positions, but they will prompt divisions to realign budgets. Preserving reserves now provides a larger buffer for future volatility, helping avoid deeper cuts later and reinforcing confidence among stakeholders and donors.
6. Open Discussion for FOAC with Vice Presidents: Budget Planning Strategies and Priorities
 - a. Each Vice President received a reduction target and will determine how to meet it within their division.

- b. Vice Presidents are encouraged to make targeted (not across-the-board) reductions, considering impacts over the next three years given limited prospects for increased state funding.
 - c. Cost-saving options include:
 - i. Leave vacant positions unfilled
 - ii. Avoid permanent commitments that are difficult to reverse
 - iii. Review active contracts for accuracy and continued need
 - iv. Shift one-time costs to appropriate funding sources
 - v. Reduce discretionary spending (e.g., memberships) to essentials
 - d. The Vice Presidents attending the meeting all agreed that they will be approaching budget cuts in a careful, collaborative process focused on minimizing campus-wide impacts. They will work with their direct reports to identify areas for reduction, as they have the best understanding of where cuts will have the least impact.
7. The next meeting will be in April to discuss strategic investments. Another meeting will be held in May to discuss the final budget. Committee members were encouraged to submit questions or agenda items for future meetings.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:48pm.