

Oregon TECH

University Enrollment and Growth Strategies

Laura McKinney, LeAnn Maupin, Hallie Neupert, Erika Veth Wilsonville, K Falls, Extension and Online

Board of Trustees, June 30, 2016



Summary observations

- Oregon Tech is responding to national and state trends, and is well positioned for value in the markets we serve.
- Oregon Tech is deepening its strategic planning practices at the campus and program levels.
- Enrollment initiatives have been untethered from these emerging program and campus strategies. Alignment will increase effectiveness.
- Different tuition approaches may be necessary to address significant faculty overloads which may be capping growth and to improve adjunct compensation in the Portland area while remaining financially viable.
- Strategic enrollment management leadership is long overdue.





What are the trends affecting enrollment?

- Changes in the university business model.
 - As revenue sources shift; institutions employ new strategies to remain viable.
- Demand for value. Transparency of outcomes.
 - Career readiness, relevance, reasonable cost, availability, accessibility, flexibility.
- Emergence of episodic and life-long learning.
 - No longer a "one and done" model.
- Oregon's changing demographics.
 - Increasing Latino population, stagnation of other underserved groups in college going rate and achievement; aspirations for higher high school graduation rate; a "lost generation" of high school and college drop outs.





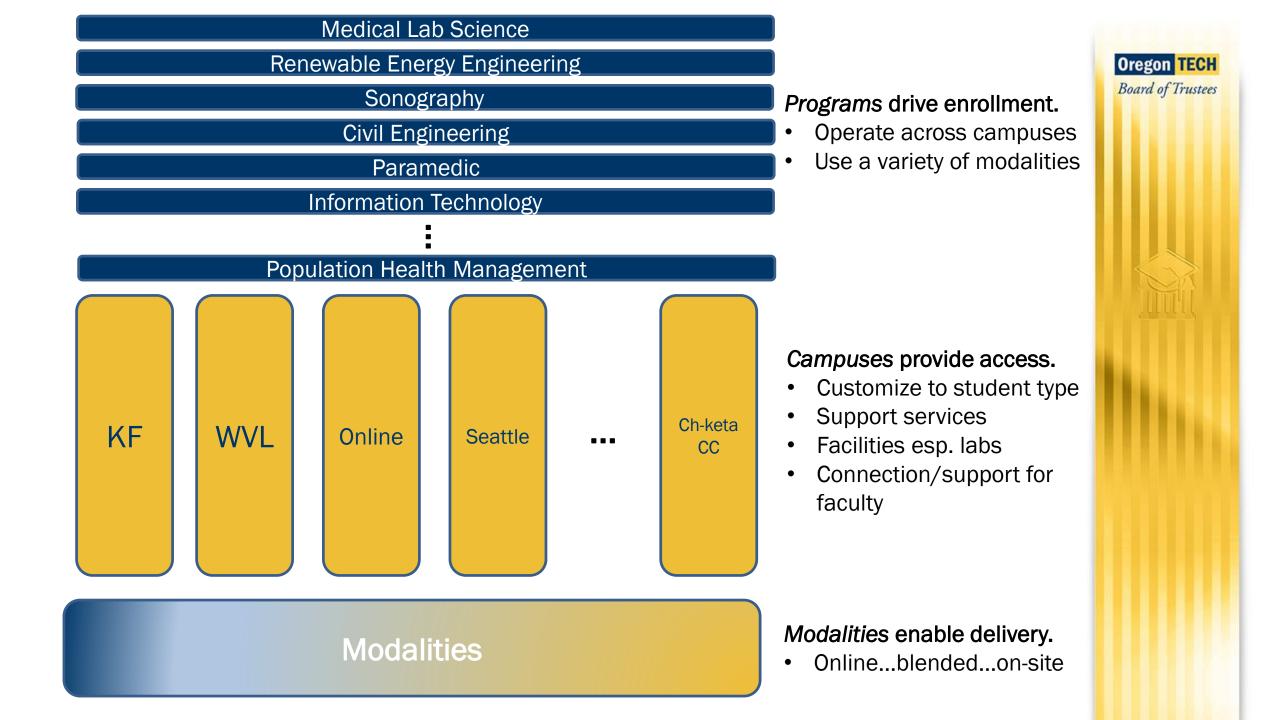
Oregon Tech responds: enrollment strategies

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- Provide robust portfolio of student options and access.
 - Online, blended, multi-campus, extension sites increase reach to students.
 - Partner with education "value chain" to pull in students.
 - Engaging business more directly—in initiatives such as OMIC, OREC, PHM Research Center, and the Cybersecurity Center.
- Deliver affordable career value.
 - High demand, high wage occupations relevant to Oregon.
 - "Just in time" and "where I am" educational opportunities.
- Offer education in a variety of "completion" models; and improve completion rates.
 - Degree, certificate, badging, continuing education.
 - Support models for retention (TOP/TRIO, texting project...)
- Build to Oregon's emerging demographics: Latino, Native American, Black, rural.

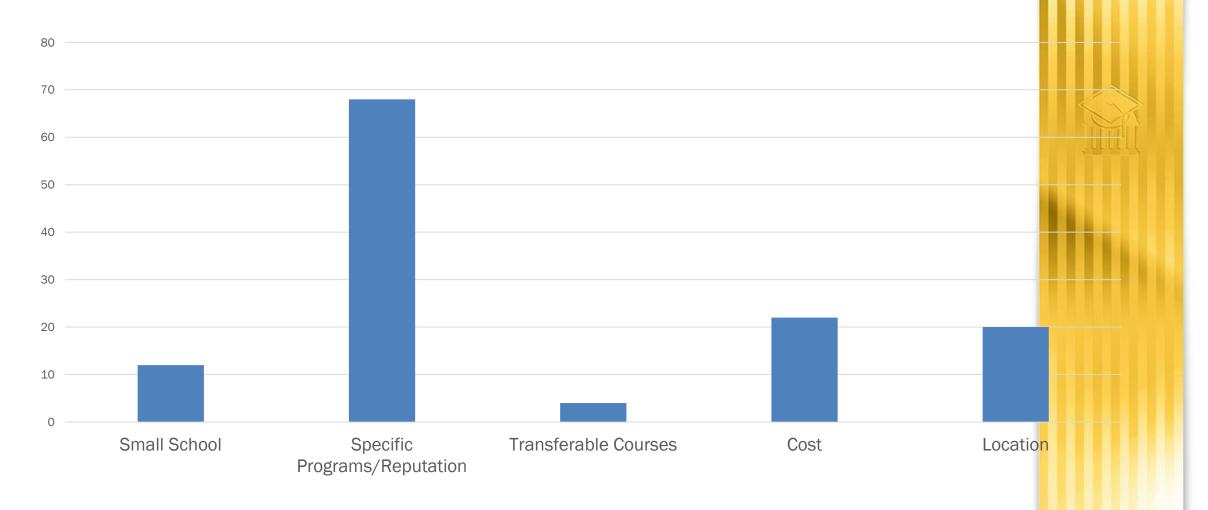




*Programs bring students to us...

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Why did you end up choosing to attend Oregon Tech?



*From a 2015 student survey with 255 respondents

At the deeper level... aligning enrollment initiatives with strategy

- Program strategies are being developed comprehensively for the first time in decades.
 - Market-driven approach to planning.
 - Program margins: expenditures tied to enrollment growth.
- Online and Wilsonville have developed campus strategies. Seattle and K Falls will follow suit.

Recruiting has been untethered from these strategies, both program and campus, at this point.

Key actions:

- Complete strategies and organize to support program implementation.
- Hire strategic enrollment VP (Sept 2016).
- Connect recruiting strategies and tactics to program and campus directions.





University-wide growth: enablers and opportunities

- Capitalize on high school pipeline.
 - Convert higher percentage of HST/ACP students to Oregon Tech undergraduates.
 - Engage with STEM Hubs to connect with high school teachers and students.
 - Build on increasing high school graduates' population.
- Explore tuition approaches.
 - We are lower than other in-state options (\$13,400 in CA; \$10,900 in WA; \$14,000 in CO).
 - Differential tuition for expensive programs or access
- Partnerships with community colleges.
 - WA is doing interesting work with co-location.
- Leverage new industry relationships in OREC/OMIC and others.





University-wide growth: barriers and challenges

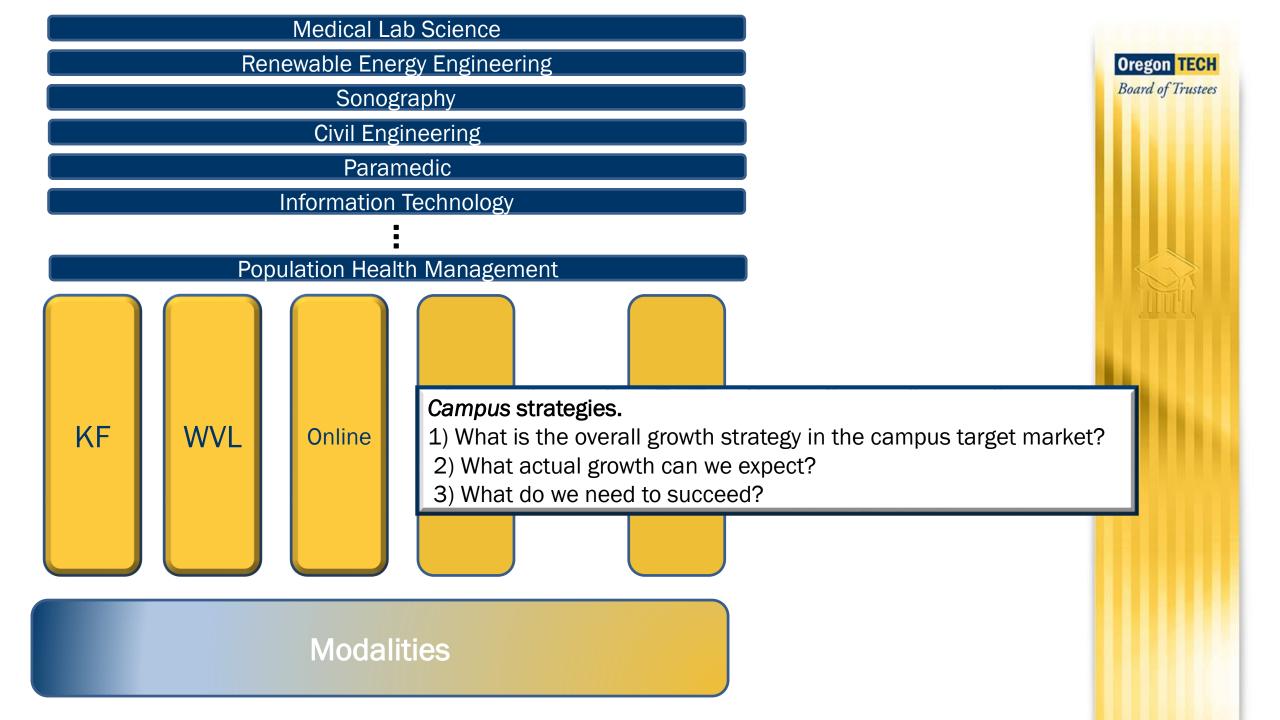
 Despite national accolades, Oregon Tech still struggles with brand recognition, even in-state.

 Staying differentiated in our key mission area—delivering hands-on education—when delivering in novel modalities.

- Faculty capacity and recruiting.
 - University-wide workload concerns.
 - Online depends on overload and out of load.
 - Wilsonville needs competitive adjunct compensation.
 - Klamath Falls doesn't have a robust adjunct pool.







ENROLLMENT AND GROWTH STRATEGIES

ONLINE EXPANSION

ERIKA VETH



Summary observations

- Oregon Tech Online marketing has successfully generated growth in online programs.
- The online portfolio includes offerings in degree completion, fully online programs (credentialed/licensed professionals), and online course offerings available to all students.
- Many online programs are at capacity.
- Growth is dependent on increasing faculty capacity and university commitment to online education.
- Integrate university-wide quality practices into online delivery.



Next steps

- Continue to build relationships with the rest of Oregon Tech:
 - All programs and all students, regardless of campus, belong to the department as a whole and should be collaboratively/holistically cultivated
 - Online growth can benefit entire operation—not a separate entity
- Revisit online compensation model without drastically affecting faculty income and while improving the welfare of others
 - Allow more in-load opportunities for full-time faculty
- Hire different types of faculty
 - Build an adjunct pool
 - Hire NTTF in areas where they are most needed—lower level Gen. Ed. & coverage for clusters of needed courses
- Accessibility is key—offer more sections
- Continue to invest in quality



Overall growth strategy

- Strategic marketing and recruitment cycle
- Targeting prospective students
- Recruiting fully online students from populations other than KF/WLV prospects
- Support on-campus programs with online courses
- Investing in QUALITY—student and faculty support
- Building our faculty reserves

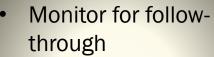


Marketing & recruitment cycle

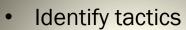
- Student Surveys
- Info requests
- FAST
- National conversation

- How do students find us?
- Demographics
- What do they want to know?
- Growth and decline





Monitor for consistency, quality, message



- Modify timeline different than oncampus
- Modify tactics
- Communicate with all stakeholders



Targeted recruitment tactics

- Niche market—STEM&M ONLINE
- Use of mailing lists from registries
- Focus on outside of Oregon
- Social media—Facebook
- Online college search engines
- Video/web design--80% first encounter us via the website
- Targeted web advertising
- Free marketing











Messaging & branding

What do online students want to know?

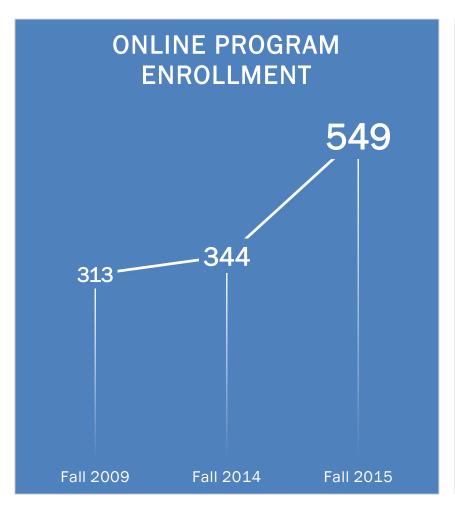
– How long will it take to earn my degree?

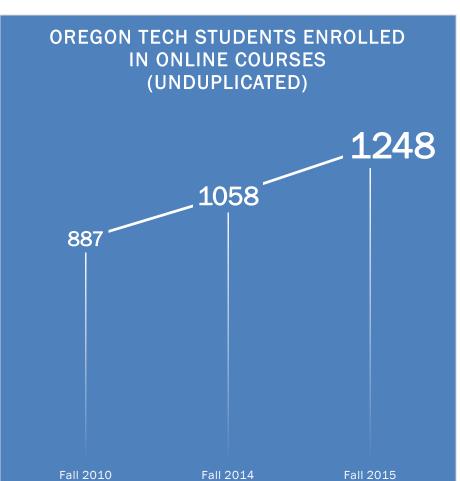
- Will my classes transfer?
- How much will this cost?
- Will I get a job when I graduate?
- Will I make money?
- How will this affect my family?
- Consistency in our brand
- All student support staff and advertising reflect answers to these questions





Recent growth







Expected growth

New opportunities for online campus recruitment

- Master of Science in Allied Health
- Geomatics—Online Surveying and GIS options
- Cyber Security-B.S.
- Picture Archiving & Communication
 System (PACS) Specialization
- Digital badging
- Non-Admit recruitment

Opportunities to support overall growth at Oregon Tech

- Population Health Management
- Clinical Lab Science
- Renewable & Electrical Engineering—M.S. & B.S. blended/online
- Increased offerings in general
- Remote technologies—Kubi robots, Zoom, accessible communication/collaboration tools



Investing in quality

- Participation in IDEA end-of-course evaluations
- Opens the conversation for inclusion of online courses in Annual Performance Evaluations (APE)
- Consistent reviews for content and pedagogy via a steam of instructional design staff and faculty content experts
- Technology should not get in the way of teaching & learning
 - Invest in online faculty support
 - Invest in student support staff







Sustainability of growth?

- Online infrastructure was designed in 1997 as an incentive model
- We have ample opportunity for growth, but current system needs revision apart from incentive model:
 - Online compensation model (per student/per credit)
 - Workload—79% carried by FT faculty in excess of regular workload
 - Not enough available sections—courses fill immediately
 - Needed courses are difficult to staff
 - Lack of an adjunct pool





ENROLLMENT AND GROWTH STRATEGIES

WILSONVILLE PERSPECTIVE

LAURA MCKINNEY



Summary observations

- Wilsonville has a variety of non-traditional students:
 - Requires tailored and nuanced recruiting strategies.
 - Time and course availability are the highest barriers.
- Programs are all high demand/high wage.
 - All stages of maturity: start-up, growing, established, capped.
- Industry opportunities such as OMIC and the Cybersecurity Center.
 - Needs faculty capacity/institutional incentives to capitalize.
- Competitive higher education environment in the Portland area; partnerships are key for student pipelines.



What do we need to succeed?

- Better understanding and strategic action in our recruiting efforts.
 - CRM data not reliable yet.
 - Ability to predict and track within the funnel is absent.
 - More investment in Portland metro recruiting.
- Retention initiatives focused on the areas identified by students as barriers:
 - Time, time, and time.
 - Course availability.
 - Money.
- Faculty workload reductions, especially in smaller departments.
- Competitive adjunct pay to ensure quality and build capacity with viable business model.
- Brand recognition.
- Having the "cool stuff" in our labs.





Campus strategy: Wilsonville

- 1) What is the overall growth strategy in the campus target market?
 - Know your students and what they value.
 - Deliver.
- 2) What actual growth can we expect?
 - Demand is high.
 - Excellent execution is vital. Competitors are active.
- 3) What do we need to succeed?
 - Alignment of resources to support program enrollment and strategy.
 - Capacity and quality.
 - Relevant student support.





Who are our students?

- Cost constrained, value conscious students in the Portland-Salem area;
- Career advancement students who are employed and seeking development, promotion or a new position;
- **Differentiated degree** students who are attracted by the reputation of a distinguished program at Oregon Tech;
- Time-sensitive; cost elastic students who will pay more for an accelerated program;
- International students who are seeking a US university experience as part of their degree program;
- *Placebound* students in the Portland-Salem area interested in polytechnic education.





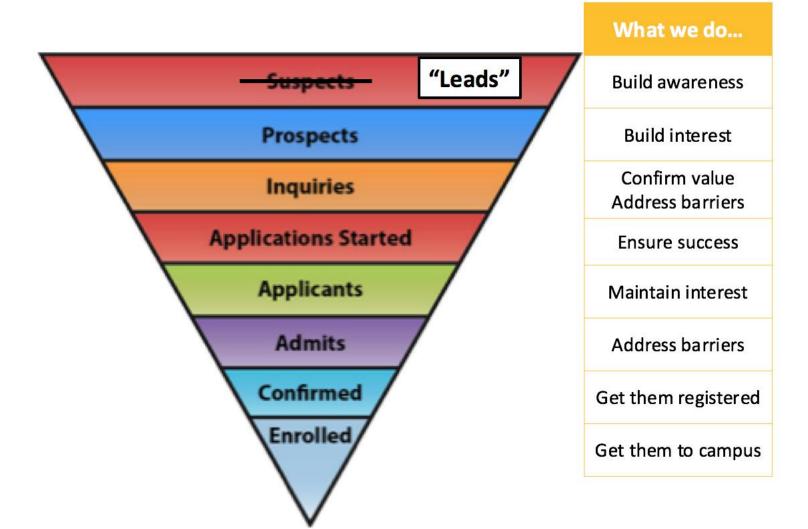
What makes a student decide to attend?

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- Knowing we exist.
- Easy to apply.
- Compelling programs. Degrees have real market value.
- Confidence in our reputation.
- Direct interaction with faculty.
- Exposure to our labs.
- Transferability able to complete in reasonable time.
- Financially within reach.
- Logistically feasible.



Are we effective?





What we are doing or planning to do...

- Awareness. Excellent e-presence. STEM Hub participation.
- Deep connections with community colleges to reach transfer students.
- Partnering with other schools...(community colleges; private liberal arts)
- Program information and reputation; especially on website.
- Reputation growth through industry initiatives.
- Faculty contact through preview and registration days.
- Events at and website presence for labs.
- Quick transfer evaluation. Easy admission cycle.
- Financial counseling.
- Hub and spoke model to bring Oregon Tech to the community.





Programs offered at Wilsonville: high market demand

- Medical lab science (BS)
- Paramedic and emergency medical services management (AAS, BS)
- Applied psychology; applied behavioral analysis (BS)
- Electrical engineering; electronics engineering technology (BS) Optics.
- Renewable energy engineering (BS & MS)
- Operations management (BS)
- Applied technology and management (BAS)
- Information technology and cybersecurity (BS)
- Health informatics (BS)
- Software engineering technology (BS)
- Embedded systems engineering technology (BS)
- Manufacturing engineering technology (BS)
- Mechanical engineering; mechanical engineering technology (BS)





What are the barriers to completion? Time, time, time...

- Course schedule offerings @ 49%
- Personal life @ 44%
- Family life @ 40%
- The next highest was commuting to campus @ 24%
- Housing, advising and transfer issues all came in about 18%
- Food security is 11%





Are we helping them stay and complete?

Remember "time, time, time"...

- Offering remote delivery courses to enable students to access Klamath Falls sections or to attend classes at partner sites in Portland and reduce commute time.
- Increasing online and blended options.
- Continuing nights/weekends emphasis.
- Peer consulting center available until 10p at night. Pilot of late night opening.
- Texting project includes Wilsonville students.
- Lack retention support; The Rock initiative only at K Falls.
- Increasing certificates to enable incremental value.
- Business service centers should help connect students to better employment opportunities while still in school.



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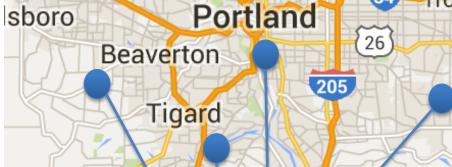
Stepping back to strategy...



Broad technical focus

"Zero friction" programs
Superior distributed delivery
Junior-senior-post bacc emphasis
Partnering with complementors

Tro



30

26

Differentiated destination programs: #1 or #2

ewberg

State-of-the-practice shared labs

Business service centers





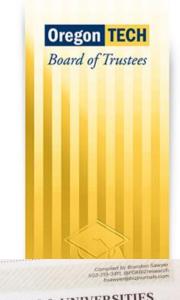
Who are the competitors?

• Competitors vary by program strength and discipline. Some are natural partners as well.

Competitors tend to reach just subsets of Oregon Tech's market, with the

exception of PSU.

- Includes:
 - Portland metro area community colleges.
 - Online offerings.
 - Portland metro area private technical universities (U of P).
 - Portland State University.
 - Oregon State University.
 - Specialty schools
 (e.g. code schools, ITT Tech, professional organizations such as SANS, PMI)
- One notable competitor is not going to school at all...building skills at work.



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What growth can we expect?

- Capped, competitive and stable:
 - Medical lab science; paramedic.
- Destination programs and growing:
 - Electrical and renewable energy (BS and MS)
- Small faculty cohort but promising:
 - CSET is unique, but has just now grown to 3 local faculty in Fall 2017.
 - Information technology, informatics and cybersecurity are all realizing significant market interest. Small group of faculty under intense growth pressure.
 - Applied psychology, operations management and emergency medical services management are in early start-up phases.
- Fresh start:
 - Mechanical and manufacturing programs are in early redevelopment mode. Growth will take some time. OMIC is tremendous opportunity.
 - MS Engineering and multi-discipline BS degrees?
- Technology management program has untapped potential.







ENROLLMENT AND GROWTH STRATEGIES

KLAMATH FALLS

LEANN MAUPIN



Summary observations

- Klamath Falls strategy has been conflated with institution strategy.
- It is time to manage the institutional portfolio.
- Lack good data to make and evaluate meaningful strategic decisions.
 - Lack of dedicated institutional research.
 - CRM is underutilized.
- Program strategies are being developed comprehensively for the first time in decades.



Diagnosing the potential enrollment decline: more questions than answers

Maturing our enrollment practices will help answer questions:

- Regular outreach: What are the persistent reasons that Klamath Falls students leave or fail to enroll once admitted?
- Focused recruiting: How can we tailor our recruiting to reach target populations? How do we connect with program interest?
- Better data in our funnel. What are the most effective ways to find potential students and get them excited about Oregon Tech?
- Oregon demographics: How can we reach emerging Latino market?

Look at what's working for Oregon Tech Online and what's working with programspecific marketing initiatives...





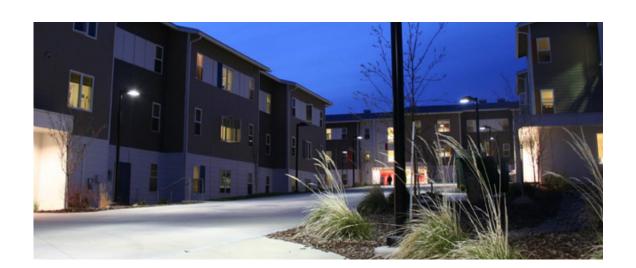
Recruiting strategy by target student type

- Recruiting/admissions has been driven by an institutional strategy.
 - Identified targets by student location (e.g. out-of-state) or student level (e.g. Freshmen) rather than by program interest.
 - No practice of setting specific targets by population to achieve student mix.
 - Somewhat of a "one-size-fits-all" approach.
 - Institutional strategy has not be stable enough over time to see strategic outcomes emerge.
 - Other campuses, and some programs, have been engaged in individual recruiting tailored to their populations. This is showing success.
- Focus on Klamath Falls campus has been less intentional than outlying campuses and online.
 - Klamath Falls strategy conflated with institution strategy.
 - Nuances of the differences in student markets by campus are not currently built into recruiting tactics.
 - Klamath Falls strategy will focus recruiting/admissions efforts.



Benefits of focus: campus strategy development

- Following the lead of Online and Wilsonville, Klamath Falls will be developing a campus enrollment strategy:
 - Built upon the emerging department 5-year strategies;
 - Identifying the unique student markets and value proposition that Klamath Falls provides;
 - Leveraging the resources at the Klamath Falls campus, such as student housing, student life, athletics and other full university student experiences.





Same market strengths apply...with unique opportunities

- Oregon Tech programs are high demand, high value:
 - Employer needs are statewide. Klamath Falls benefits from the high market demand, even if not all disciplines are needed in the local area.
 - Klamath Falls has unique positioning for rural health initiatives.
 - OREC provides foundational investments for the highly recognized renewable energy engineering program which leverages the Klamath Falls campus resources.

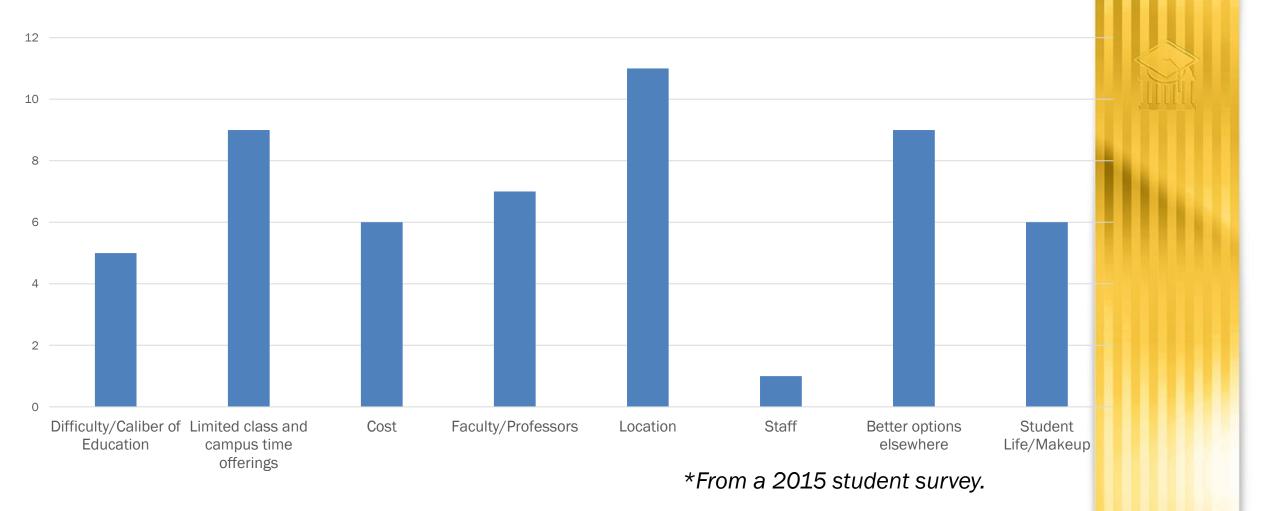


*We need to ask...often

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Student Quotes—Why they have thought of leaving (not just about KF).



ENROLLMENT AND GROWTH STRATEGIES

EXTENSION CAMPUSES

HALLIE NEUPERT



Seattle and our Boeing partner

- Seattle has been disconnected strategically from Oregon Tech.
- New program director will be working on strategic planning.
- There is an opportunity in WA is to join with qualified community college to offer a fuller set of courses.
- Seattle has an excellent business model which operates in a lean administrative environment, and returns money to Oregon Tech.
- Great relationship with Boeing. This approach could be a model for other such extension campuses.



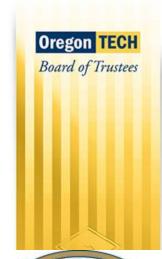
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- Strong community college partner: provides outreach, shared facilities.
- Community partner: patient referral service.
- Dental Assistant students attracted to B.S. degree completion program.
- Stable, fully-enrolled, capped program.



Recap

- Oregon Tech is responding to national and state trends, and is well positioned for value in the markets we serve.
- Oregon Tech is deepening its strategic planning practices at the campus and program levels.
- Enrollment initiatives have been untethered from these emerging program and campus strategies. Alignment will increase effectiveness.
- Different tuition approaches may be necessary to address significant faculty overloads which may be capping growth and to improve adjunct compensation in the Portland area while remaining financially viable.
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BACKGROUND SLIDES



University-wide: maturing our recruiting/admissions practices

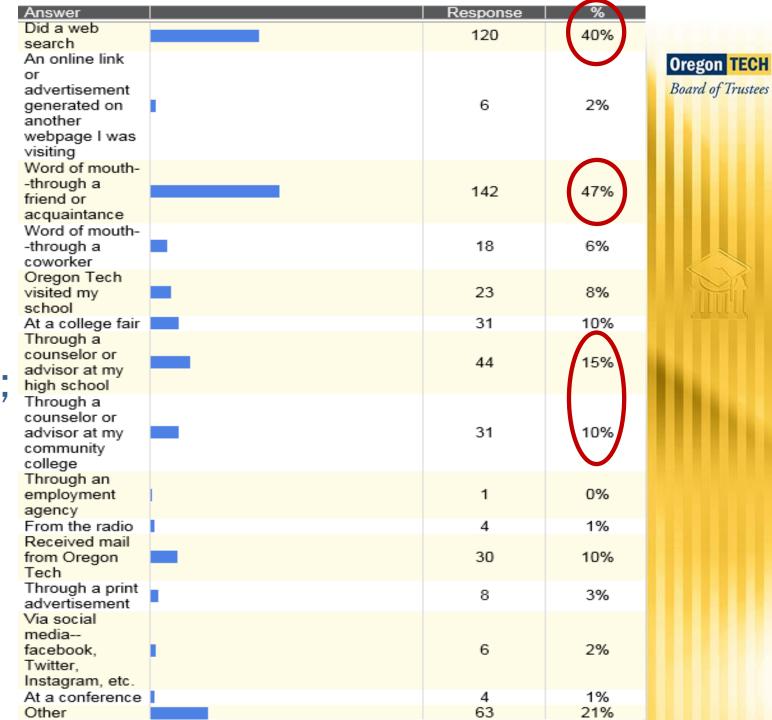
- Fully exploit the capabilities of Recruiter, our student client relationship manager.
- Align our recruiting/admissions efforts to identified student market segments.
- Make a tangible change in brand awareness.
- Focus on the student—and what is in it for them—in our website, collateral and other communications.
- Double-down on **pursuing qualified sources of students**, especially community colleges and industry connections.
- Build and manage a website that reflects Oregon Tech technical excellence.



BACKGROUND: RECRUITING

How did you hear about Oregon Tech? (check all that apply)

*Our e-presence is key; as is our brand, esp. with influencers.



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^{*}From a 2015 student survey with 415 respondents