

OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Faculty Administrator Meeting
2 p.m. Tuesday, November 19, 2013

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Governance Update- President Maples reported that he will continue to meet with the TRU universities to discuss governance options. Oregon Tech is putting together a recommendation for the governance structure, and President Maples is encouraging faculty, staff, students and the community to take the governance survey. The other three regional universities have surveyed their campus communities as well, and their results are in favor of independent boards. It is unlikely that the governor will allow each of the smaller schools to move forward with independent boards, and it is unclear whether the governor would allow one independent board for Oregon Tech and a consortium for the remaining regional schools.

In addition to providing the best governance choice for the university, Oregon Tech was asked to present a second preferred option.

Q: Is there any information on what would happen if we become a branch/affiliate campus, and are we in talks with any of the larger schools?

A: Provost Burda, Lita Colligan and I met with the leadership at the University of Oregon (U of O) to get a general idea of what a branch or affiliate campus would look. President Gottfredson is philosophically interested but had not considered taking on a branch campus. The leadership at the U of O would have to assess what kind of financial obligation they would be taking on, and their independent board would need to make a determination if a branch campus would be a good fit for their university.

Strategic Plan Update

President Maples reported that the strategic plan is on hold until the governance model is final. The broader goals of the Oregon Tech strategic plan include two main campuses with one in Klamath Falls and one in Wilsonville with a total enrollment of 8,000-12,000 students by 2025. It also a goal of Oregon Tech to become a larger player in the state and have enough influence to obtain an independent board.

OHSU Update

Oregon Health Sciences University is going to establish a School of Public Health. The school may compete against or complement Oregon Tech. There may be opportunities for Oregon Tech to collaborate with the school but the partnership would be up to OHSU. Oregon Tech currently offers two joint degrees with OHSU in Wilsonville.

Facilities Planning Update

President Maples provided a brief update regarding the following facilities projects:

- The Cornett Hall environmental site assessment is moving forward and is designed to assess the future of the building.
- There is an academic needs assessment that is being done; the academic group has been on a retreat in Wilsonville working on where some of the academic needs and growth will go.
- There is a design planning phase that will begin late spring through winter of next year that will determine the course of Cornett Hall. The hope is that we can continue to use the building until we get a completely new facility built.
- The campus below ground is not well mapped; we discovered a few pipes and tunnels that we did not know were there, but we are learning a lot about it as we do this and this will be a great database for Oregon Tech for the future.
- The solar array is complete, ready to turn on once Pacific Power gives the go ahead. There are still some issues with the city power, and we are prepared to request a net metering waiver at the next Oregon Public Utilities Commission meeting in Salem on December 19. Currently, net metering is capped at 2 megawatts, and we are asking for a waiver of four megawatts.

Enrollment Update

Oregon Tech has reached a 10% increase in enrollment compared to this time last year. Last spring Oregon Tech had over 700 graduates, which was an increase of more than 100 students compared to previous years. Most of the other universities in the system are reporting the same or decreased enrollment numbers.

Q&A WITH PRESIDENT MAPLES

Q: What is our graduation rate?

A: The definition of graduation rate is a first time freshmen who are set to graduate in 4-6 years. The current 6-year graduation rate is roughly 50%.

Q: Of the approximate 400 additional students this year, can that be split between campuses?

A: Wilsonville student enrollment increased by 144, Klamath Falls increased by 213, La Grande increased by 2, Salem increased by 19, distance education increased by 27 and Seattle increased by 8 students.

Q: What is the current breakdown of GPA for new/transfer students to OIT?

A: For fall 2013, 43% of Oregon Tech students have a 3.5 GPA or higher, 32% have a GPA of 3.1-3.5, 19% have a GPA of 2.5-3.0 and 5% are below a 2.5. The acceptance for transfer students is above a 2.25, but I would personally like to see that raised. The high school acceptance GPA was raised in years past but the transfer GPA was not.

Q: Is the 2.25 GPA acceptance criteria similar to other schools?

A: Yes, the other universities in the system are currently following this model.

Erin Foley reminded faculty and staff to RSVP for the annual Thanksgiving dinner.

President Maples announced that Raenelle Zumbo is the new faculty athletic representative and that he is very pleased to have her in this role.

Ron McCutcheon introduced Tracie Houtz, human resource specialist. Tracie previously worked for Eastern Oregon University.

Meeting adjourned: 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Dyrud
adp