

OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
Faculty Administrator Meeting  
January 29, 2013

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

***University Governance-President Maples***

The chancellor resigned; he will remain the chancellor until the end of February and at that point, an interim chancellor will be named. The interim chancellor will likely be in place for an extended period of time.

***Capital Priorities***

- President Maples reported that the university system will go head-to-head with community colleges for overall capital. The Oregon Educational Investment Board (OEIB) has signaled its intent to not weigh in on any of the capital priorities. OEIB will refer to the governor regarding his priorities.
- The \$10 million F bond will complete the purchase of the Wilsonville building.
- Oregon Tech is considering a renovation or a rebuild of Cornett Hall. A study is being conducted to determine the best route to take.
- The governor decided to zero out the sports lottery money for universities. This equals approximately \$300,000 to \$400,000 per year for Oregon Tech, which is roughly 14% of the athletic budget. There is a huge push by all the universities to get the lottery money reinstated.
- Tuition Equity will likely pass this session for in-state tuition for undocumented foreign students. It is in some respects an unfunded mandate; the system office looked at how much money each university in the system lost, and for us the amount is around \$1400 per student.
- Oregon Tech was asked to complete a series of modeling. The constraints included a 3% per year tuition cap and a 3% per year pay increase. With those constraints, everyone but University of Oregon goes under water in five years with most under water after three years. Oregon Tech will look into doing a differential tuition in order to offset the mandatory caps, expenditure and PERS increases in the future.

**Question:** Was student growth taken into account for the modeling?

**Answer:** Yes, what was not changed in that modeling the in-state vs. out-of-state student ratio. Oregon Tech is therefore going to be more aggressive towards recruitment of out-of-state students and may consider doing away with WUE.

***Independent Boards - Update***

It is likely that University of Oregon and Portland State University will get their own boards. Part of the wording in the Legislative Concept 759 precludes universities with less than 20,000 students or less than a half billion budget to get their own boards.

If the legislation goes through the way that it is written, University of Oregon, Portland State University and Oregon State University establish their own boards and the four smaller schools,

WOU, SOU, EOU, and OIT would share a board. Under this plan, it would appear that the Oregon Education Investment Board and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission will continue to exist and the universities would compete for the same set of dollars across the system. Each independent board would have the ability to conduct part of the functions of the higher education board.

President Maples asked the faculty members to send him their thoughts and ideas regarding independent boards vs. a shared board scenario.

Executive staff is reviewing the list of potential shared services with the other small schools in order to collectively reduce the burden on each school. The services provided by the Chancellor's Office will also be evaluated in order to understand what the system office does and find some ways to have a smaller scale system office functioning for the smaller schools.

Because there has not been much discussion regarding these topics, a number of the presidents will be pushing to hold off until 2014.

## **Q&A WITH PRESIDENT MAPLES**

**Q.** How does this new structure compare to university systems in other states?

**A.** There's been talk of comparing this to places like North Carolina and Virginia and a couple of other places. Those are all states that support higher education at a much higher dollar level than the state of Oregon. You can find any possible system and it exists in some states somewhere.

**Q.** I just read that the governor is proposing a 6.6% increase in higher education funding. Do you think that will ever happen?

**A.** The 6.6% increase in the governor's budget does not cover the proposed set of increases in salaries, PERS or health. The increase is still in there, but it's a functional decrease in the operating budget in terms of what it would take to maintain current services.

**Q.** What's the future of the Provost Council?

**A.** The future of the Provost Council will supposedly move forward.

**Q.** Is there any discussion on one or more of the smaller universities becoming part of the system under one or more of the larger universities that would have their own boards?

**A.** There's been discussion about something like that. In a discussion with Oregon State for instance, they have no desire for that to occur.

**Q.** What is the status of the strategic planning process of where we're going and how that is going to be folded in to our deliberation development?

A. We will have something in about a month to react to. We have a standing strategic plan that we will be modifying.

Q. What sort of things will be in there to rank one form of government superior to the others?

A. Frankly, I can't think of anything that will be in the strategic plan that would give you one form over another.

Q. Are some of the decisions externally controlled rather than internally?

A. Yes, and I'm trying to predict what some of those external forces and factors might end up being. I'm trying to get as much information as to what those options might be for us.

Q. How would the proposed board structures affect our relationship with OHSU?

A. You may recall OHSU sort of went their own way independently before and took a fair amount of funding with them. In terms of the relationship, I don't think that's going to change at all. They currently act like an ex-officio member at the OUS Board meetings.

Q. Is that a model of how other universities with independent boards may treat a centralized system?

A. Possibly, it's a concern and again I think it is one that requires careful thinking on our part.

Q. What sense do you get in terms of the other small schools' cultures or viewpoint, how would they react to a technical school being in their midst? How do you think they would categorize or view us?

A. I'm not sure what their reaction would be. There are other things that differentiate those schools from us and our mission.

Q. Is there still discussion about possibly lowering tuition in some ways?

A. No, in order to charge \$3,000 tuition a year for in-state students we would have to receive about double what the state gives us now.

Q. Is there still talk of scholarships for underprivileged groups?

A. The Oregon opportunity grant will continue to exist. One of the smaller scale challenges along those lines would be whether or not WUE becomes one of the sanctioned distance delivery kinds of opportunities that would also then get Oregon opportunity grant money funneled towards it.

Meeting adjourned: 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Dyrud  
adp