**May**

**OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Faculty-Administrator Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2009**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

*Budget Update - President Maples*
President Maples reported that the State of Oregon will provide $800 million for higher education. The budget is approximately 14% less than the previous biennium funds totaling $929 million. The original budget scenarios were projecting a 20 - 30 % reduction. Oregon Tech is still modeling a 4.6% across the board salary pool reduction but is still waiting to receive input from legal counsel regarding implementation of those reductions. President Maples would like to implement the salary reduction on a graduated scale.

The Oregon University System asked university presidents not to address tuition increases at this time. OUS plans to work with the governor and legislature regarding the amounts. Oregon Tech has modeled an 8.5% increase but actual numbers are not available. Approximately 1% of the salary pool and tuition revenue for Oregon Tech is $180,000 and $100,000 respectively.

The Chancellor's Office is still preparing for a 25% cut in their overall budget.

*Summer decisions- President Maples*
President Maples stated that he is well aware that in the past decisions regarding the university would occur over the summer. President Maples stated that he would prefer to share budget information with the campus community prior to June 15, but he does not foresee that happening. The tuition rates are more than likely not going to be set until mid-July, and it looks like the budget numbers may not be available until mid-summer. He apologized for the inconvenience that this may cause and stated that he will keep everyone informed regarding the budget situation through email announcements and open meetings.

**Question**: Is the 4.6% salary pool reduction a maximum or a minimum?

**Answer**: Yes, it is a maximum and a minimum as far as I know. If we can move forward without going that deep, we might be able to do that. It all depends on the flexibility with the tuition. To be honest, we are being micromanaged on the revenue side of the house.

**Q**. If you decide to do furlough days, do you have any idea when?

**A**. We are looking for some guidance in terms of how we will be able to accomplish that. There have been several ideas floated around everything from taking a chunk of furlough days at once to spreading them out over a course of the year to actually including some of the paid holidays. There are all kinds of potential options on the table. The key from our perspective is to have minimal financial impact to everybody involved, to have minimal bookkeeping impact and to not interfere with the academic schedule, quality, and course offerings.

**Q**. Have there been discussions around convocation?

**A**. Convocation is certainly one of the events that we could potentially trim.

**REPORTS**

*Faculty Senate - Marla Miller*
The election process is close to completion; Faculty Senate will put forth officers at the June meeting. Faculty Senate completed all of the charges for this year and created new charges for next year.

*Administrative Council - Greg Stewart*Administrative Council finished the election process; the results will be posted by the end of the week.

Administrative Council recommended Ray and Sandy Setters as Administrator Emeritus.

*Academic Council - Brad Burda*Academic Council is working on the selection of a new peer group. The council will move forward with a selection as quickly as possible. Mark Neupert, chair, Faculty Compensation Committee, and Ruth Keele, director, Performance Measures and Outcomes will work with the council to select a group of 30 schools before faculty and staff depart for the summer.

Academic Council elected Dave Pocock, Gary Naseth, and Polly Francis as Faculty Emeritus Directors.

Brad Burda, Terri Armstrong and Charlie Jones participated in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Reno, Nevada. Brad, Terri, and Charlie judged Oregon projects and awarded two Oregon Tech scholarships to Avilash Cramer of West Linn High and Kieron Callahan of Grant Union High. If the students choose not to attend Oregon Tech, their high school will have an option to apply for the scholarship.

**Q & A WITH PRESIDENT MAPLES**

The Program Reduction and Elimination Committee will provide their recommendation to President Maples by June 2. The recommendations will be in hand prior to receiving the budget from the state.

**Question**: Maureen Sevigny sent out a report from Eastern Oregon University. Is Oregon Tech prepared to send out a similar report?

**Answer**: Yes, we will.

**Q**. What is the timeline for that?

**A**. I want to get a little better handle on where we are financially before sending out such a report. Eastern jumped the gun on a couple of items in their report. They are trying to get information out before their new president comes in. I am going to shoot for the first of July. I do not want to send information out that we have to correct and back track.

**Q**. When will decisions be made as far as the impact on people?

**A**. We are going to have to get a better idea regarding state funding. We think we know at this point but the targets keep moving around. We were modeling an 8.5% tuition increase; right now, the tuition increase limit would not allow us to go that high. We will need to juggle the tuition increase, the amount of state funding, and the set of recommendations from the PREC committee. Please bear in mind that this is a set of recommendations; the final decisions will rest with me. I will make those decisions as quickly as possible, but I will not do so in the absence of good information.

**Q**. So when should we start job hunting?

**A**. I would not sweat that yet; I really wouldn't. One of the things that we have philosophically said we were going to try very hard to do is to protect the people that work at Oregon Tech. We are still going to try to do that.

**Q**. Can we assume that program cuts are off the table?

**A**. I would say that program cuts are one of the last resorts. We are really trying desperately to make sure that what we are doing serves the needs of our students. For programs that do not have many students, there will be opportunity to work with faculty to try to recruit additional students and or modify those programs to make them more appealing for students.

**Q**. Brad, am I offline?

**A**. I think there will be no reduction in academic programs next year. I think that is one of those things that we need a window to actually try to implement. For next year, I am not considering that at all.

President Maples reported that a Faculty Administrator meeting may be scheduled over the summer. He continued with stating that he is available to attend smaller group meetings with various staff to discuss the budget if necessary.

Meeting adjourned: 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Dyrud
adp