

**University Council Minutes
Eastern Oregon University
May 5, 2008 ~ 3:00 p.m. ~ Inlow 201**

AGENDA

Old Business:

- Discussion on proposed Constitutional revisions
- Review current draft of the Mission Statement

New Business:

- Nominations of officers for University Council

ATTENDANCE

Members in Attendance: Doctor Ayeliya, Thacher Carter, Steve Clements, Joe Corsini, Anna Maria Dill, Marilyn Levine, Dan Mielke, Jana Parmele, Nick Romriell, Kim Sorensen, Steve Tanner (Faculty Senate Rep)

Members Absent: Katy Barnett, Liz Burton, Kathryn Shorts

Others in Attendance: Dixie Lund (President, Eastern Oregon University) Beth Upshaw (Chair, Administrative Faculty Executive Council)

Meeting Notes, Decisions, Issues

Steve Clements, UC Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:07 and welcomed new UC member, Joe Corsini who is replacing Doug Kaigler. Steve also acknowledged and welcomed President Lund and Beth Upshaw.

Due to technical difficulties, the proceedings of the May 5, 2008 University Council meeting were not recorded.

UC Chair, Steve Clements, opened the meeting by suggesting that President Lund set a precedent and consider establishing permanent seats on the Cabinet for the chairs of the University Council and the Faculty Senate. Chair Clements characterized the first year of the University Council as one in which the new governing body reacted to University issues as opposed to having the opportunity to help formulate policy and the direction EOU must take.

President Lund responded by outlining her idea for a President's Council, indicating that the topics that were purview of a President's Council would be more relevant to members of the University Council (UC), Faculty Senate (FS) and the Associated Students of EOU (ASEOU).

Discussion ensued with some members of the UC stating that substantive shared governance is not occurring. The pros and cons of yet another body (President's Council) were discussed. One of the suggested solutions for engaging the UC more often is to set up a once-a -month or every-six week meeting with the President's Cabinet similar to the format used when the President's Cabinet meets with the Deans.

The UC Chair brought the discussion to a close by suggesting that the UC members reevaluate the role the UC has played in shared governance this past year and set goals for next year. NO ACTION TAKEN

Old Business

Discussion on proposed Constitutional revisions

Please see "Proposed Constitutional Revisions 4-2008 on the Shared Governance web page - <http://www.eou.edu/govern/>

UC members received electronic copies of the Constitutional revisions proposed by a subcommittee of University Council and Faculty Senate members (Kim Sorensen & Marilyn Levine represented UC, DeAnna Timmermann & Leandro Espinosa represented FS). The changes in the document were color-coded to distinguish the housekeeping from the voting changes. Most of the changes fell under the category of "housekeeping," while a lesser number were identified as ones reflecting a change to the constitution and requiring a vote by the members of the University Council electorate. The electorate includes all teaching faculty, administrative faculty and classified staff holding at least half-time appointments, and all ASEOU officers and senators.

Housekeeping Changes

The UC membership reviewed the draft of the Constitution and agreed on the housekeeping revision suggestions. Several UC members brought up the ambiguous and inconsistent use of the descriptor "ex officio" in referring to membership positions on various University Committees. In some committees, ex officio members have voting privileges while on others they do not. A discussion followed on the term "ex officio" and what it means in terms of membership and voting privileges on University committees. Members of the University Council who had served on the Shared Governance committee reiterated that the term is defined as "by virtue of one's office" and is not synonymous with "non-voting." This was the agreed upon definition of "ex officio" when the current constitution was originally voted upon by the electorate. The University Council concluded the discussion by pointing out that all ex officio members have a vote on the committees on which they serve unless the description of their membership explicitly states "ex officio without a vote."

ACTION - It was moved and seconded that all housekeeping changes be approved by University Council and that the document containing these changes be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for review and approval at their May 6, 2008.

Constitutional Changes

Article V, Section 3, Para a:

Discussion concerning the administrative faculty position of the Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee centered on the proposed change that administrative faculty who had been a representative from the "Division of Distance Education" be changed to a representative in an "Instructional Design position." Steve Tanner (Faculty Senate Rep) explained that the EPCC had specified the Instructional Design qualification for the administrative faculty member because the anticipated growth in the development of hybrid classes would call for someone on the committee with instructional technology background. Beth Upshaw, chair of the Administrative Faculty Executive Council, asked if the same "instructional design" criteria were applied to teaching faculty who served on the committee. Dan Mielke stated that the specificity of identifying instructional design expertise for the administrative faculty implicitly sent a message that the teaching faculty did not need to take responsibility for constructing curriculum in a variety of modalities. A number of UC members spoke to the valuable perspectives that other administrative faculty, such as the regional center directors and professional advisors, could bring to the EPCC. Beth Upshaw emphasized that the administrative faculty take great care about whom they nominate and vote into critical positions on University committees. She assured the University Council that the administrative faculty would select an appropriate representative who would serve on the EPCC with integrity and in a fashion consistent with the committee's purpose.

ACTION - It was moved and seconded to strike the sub-committee's revision suggestion "a representative in an Instructional Design position" from the description of the EPCC's membership and replace the former designation of "Division of Distance Education" with "one Administrative Faculty member."

The remaining Constitutional changes were discussed briefly and without debate. **Please see Appendix - Document 1 for all revision suggestions that require a vote of the electorate in order to change.**

Old Business

Review current draft of the Mission Statement

After reviewing the current draft of the Mission Statement (**See Appendix- Document 2**) the UC went back to the mission statement that was approved by the Assembly in 2004. The ASEOU members on the UC made a strong case for more emphasis on students. The UC also took into account other factors such as accessibility to postsecondary education, and the explicit references to opportunities for economic growth and substantiality that had been incorporated into the latest drafts of the mission statement. Members of the UC requested that Anna Maria Dill, UC recorder, send copies of the revised version of the Mission Statement to all UC members. Following are the revision and the 2004 version of the mission statement upon which the revision is based:

University Council Revision of the 2004 Mission Statement (May 5, 2008)

EOU is a student-centered institution. We guide student inquiry through flexible, high-quality liberal arts and professional programs leading to responsible and reflective action in a diverse and interconnected world.

As a scholarly and cultural center, EOU connects the rural regions of Oregon to a wider world. Our beautiful setting and small size enhance the personal attention our students receive, while partnerships with colleges, universities, agencies and communities add to the educational and economic possibilities of our region and state.

MISSION STATEMENT (Approved 2004)

EOU guides student inquiry through integrated, high quality liberal arts and professional programs that lead to responsible and reflective action in a diverse and interconnected world.

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New Business

Nominations of officers for University Council

Nominations for new officers for the UC was tabled until the June meeting when nominations and voting will take place.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m. The next meeting of the University Council is scheduled for Monday, June 2 at 3:00 p.m. in Inlow 201.

Minutes prepared by Anna Maria Dill

APPENDIX

Document 1. Proposed constitutional changes requiring a vote

Document 2. Draft of Mission Statement forwarded to the University Council from the subcommittee

Document 3. Revised version of 2004 Mission Statement submitted by University Council, May 5, 2008

Document 1

DRAFT

Constitutional changes

1. Article V, Section 3, Para a: proposal to change appointee "...from the Division of Distance Education" to "one (1) Administrative Faculty member"
2. Article V, Section 6, Para a: proposal to remove "...including a representative from Division of Distance Education and a representative from student affairs..." with reference to admin faculty numbers. Proposal to add the language, "...at least one from Student Life and/or Enrollment Services..." as a descriptor for the admin faculty.
3. Article V, Section 7, Para a: proposal to remove "...the Division of Distance Education..." and add the language, "...Student Life and/or Enrollment Services..." as a descriptor for the admin faculty numbers. Additionally, proposal to remove "the Dean of Student Life" as a voting ex-officio member and to add "In addition, the Dean of Students shall serve ex officio without vote."
4. Article V, Section 9, Para a: proposal to remove "...the Division of Distance Education..." and replace with "...Enrollment Services..."

Document 2

Mission Statement - Submitted by Subcommittee to both the University Council and the Faculty Senate

Draft 3.20.08

Eastern Oregon University

... beautiful setting, small size, personal attention

Mission Statement

EOU is a student-centered institution, guiding inquiry through integrated, high-quality liberal arts and professional programs that lead to responsible and reflective action in a diverse and interconnected world.

In its teaching and research, EOU draws on the cultural, environmental, and social strengths of the region, and works in partnerships for sustainable growth and development.

As the only four-year university in the eastern half of the state, EOU brings higher education opportunities to the underserved communities and people of Oregon and beyond.

Document 3

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