



EASTERN OREGON  
UNIVERSITY

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:  
MONDAY MUSINGS

June 2, 2014

Colleagues,

As we enter the last instructional week of the term, I want to express my deep and sincere appreciation for all of your hard work and dedication over the entire academic year. We have many accomplishments to be proud of, and have overcome many obstacles as well.

As of last week, we have received numerous comments and responses to the draft plan that was released over a month ago. Steve, Sarah, Jay and I sincerely appreciate the time and attention many of you took to formulate a response and to provide thoughts, ideas and in many cases, alternatives. As expected, the passion and desire to see Eastern continue to be centered on meeting the needs of students and the region is at the heart of the comments and recommendations we received. It is equally clear that there are many views and ways in which people feel those efforts may be accomplished.

We are now in the process of poring over these recommendations and comments in order to develop and release the final plan. Based on the responses we have received, we do know—as we have done in the past—that there will be changes to the plan and we are working on those now to ensure that they will have the desired outcomes. It is our intent to release the final plan on or before Monday, June 9.

I must also applaud the University community; in these times of ambiguity and pressure, the majority of responses have been thoughtful and respectful and not vindictive or personal attacks. This speaks to the decorum and professionalism each of you maintains and the pride you have in Eastern and your colleagues at all levels. This civility is expected not only at Eastern, but also throughout the academy as we rigorously debate and question to provide clarity of thought and action. It goes without saying that without this level of shared respect, we are establishing poor standards and examples for others to follow, as well as demeaning our own professional creeds.

Therefore, again, I thank you for the honest and frank feedback. This process is not easy and not without its stress points. The constructive feedback we have received will be very useful in developing a structure and paradigm for the University to use and move forward.

## **Stars of Eastern Oregon University**

I personally want to thank Heather Cashell and Angie Adams for their amazing work and dedication over the past month as we have worked through the many meetings and responses regarding the draft plan. They both have also been assisting Steve and I, but the interim president and provost as well. They have, as always, conducted themselves with an amazing sense of professionalism and commitment to the University. Their deeds and actions have not gone unnoticed.

## **Kudos and Miscellaneous**

The Faculty Recognition Dinner is this Saturday, June 7 in the Gilbert Center. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a no-host social, followed by dinner at 6:30. In addition to honoring all retiring faculty and administrative faculty, we will also honor this year's Distinguished Teaching and Administrative Faculty award recipients: Dr. Doug Kaigler, professor of art; and Heather Stanhope, education advising coordinator and teacher licensure officer. Dinner is \$15 per person and is payable no later than today, Monday, June 2. For more information contact Heather in my office.

Congratulations to Colby Heideman, 2014 Spring Symposium committee chair, and all committee members, for producing an excellent event. It was terrific to see all of our students so excited and proud to present their research and findings.

Finally, I offer my sincere congratulations to all who participated in the production of "Les Miserables." I know the regional community will be buzzing about this production for a very long time to come.

I wish you all a very productive and fulfilling week.

Sincerely,

Bob

Bob Davies  
President