

Senate Minutes 10/19/2007

President Lund addressed the Senate and University Council.

She reported that our 4th week enrollment is basically flat from last year at this time. She emphasized however that we should watch our students' progress and pay special attention to 1st generation students, those away from home for the first time, and those who have arrived here with less academic preparation.

She talked about the attitude of the OUS Board. They see the challenges of our rural situation, but we must impress them with our spirit and strengths. They were surprised, but pleased with our report of a flat enrollment.

The preliminary plan for the university will be sent to the Chancellor at the end of this week. Next Monday and Tuesday (October 29 and 30) individuals who will have their positions reduced or eliminated will receive a personal visit. Following on October 31, the plan will be released to the campus and community. The Chancellor and Board will receive the preliminary report at the November board meeting and a final report will be accepted at the December meeting. During the month of November there will be ongoing discussion pertaining to the plan.

Though the enrollment picture is OK now, we must still plan for \$4.5 million in cuts over the next three years.

There are advocates of EOU on the board. President Lind felt that board members Francesconi and Dalton-Jones are strong advocates. She reported that the board asked for a report that detailed partnerships – the one submitted by EOU was far better prepared than others.

There is no Presidential search underway. The Board wants to make sure that the university is in a position of some strength before seeking new leadership. This has nothing to do with reports of a “branch campus” model being discussed by some groups – in fact that idea seems to be waning. There is still discussion about consolidating the administrative services of the regional schools but no one has a firm proposal in place, nor any notion whether that could work.

We have strong political support from groups like ODS and our regional elected officials. We need to continue to focus on good teaching, recruitment, retention, and not let distractions derail us.

A series of questions followed for a short time, but the note taker was handling the roving mic.

Following President Lund, the University Council and others left and the Senate meeting continued. Minutes from the three previous meetings were approved. It was recommended that the minutes be more informative than simply recording what individuals said.

It was moved by the chair and seconded by ?? that the nomination of Ken Watson for Senate secretary be made. There were no further nominations – Ken was elected – Congratulations!

It was moved that the senate meeting be an open meeting. It was agreed that this was already a principle, all those present supported this.

The EPCC action taken at the meeting on September 21 to approve the Math and GE proposal was reviewed by the University Council with a few comments. The action was approved and the recommendation to forward to the Registrar was made.

The Senate has been asked to consider the issue of which Associate of Arts degrees should be fully accepted by the university as meeting our GE requirements. Currently all public Oregon Community Colleges that issue an Associate of Arts degree (AAOT) receive this approval. Also, some selected Washington and Idaho schools do also. It was felt that the institution should consider whether any regionally accredited community college should have its Associate of Arts degree fully accepted by EOU.

A discussion followed. Comments included:

- some schools will have different standards that we might not accept
- we could lose EOU credits because students who now transfer are required to take classes here to meet our GE.
- some accreditation guidelines vary?
- This notion would support the “Black” report and speed up transfer evaluation
- this could be an overall gain because more students might view EOU as a more accommodating transfer situation.
- it would make our regional partners happy
- It should ease transfer bottlenecks and perhaps better accommodate foreign students.
- how does the Transfer Module affect this idea?

Senate members will look at AA programs and come to the next meeting with some evidence about this idea. The senate will need to make a recommendation that will then be returned to the academic units for discussion and then move it through the EPCC process.

Jeff Woodford agreed to act as the chair of this activity.

We discussed meeting times. There are some class conflicts on Tuesday’s. It was finally decided that for the remainder of the term that the Faculty Senate will meet every other week on Friday from 3:00 to 5:00. The meeting times for the rest of the term will be: November 2, 16, and 30.

The vote was 2 (no) and 11 (Yes)

We agreed that you can appoint a proxy vote (give an additional vote to a senator present at the meeting) as long as the chair is informed prior to the meeting.

The follow up to the letter sent to the board was discussed. The chair agreed to send a follow up letter the try and set a meeting with the chancellor and the board. Further action such as a letter the media was placed on hold until a later time. It was felt that there will be time during November to influence the plan.

Members Present: Wenger, P Johnson, Timmermann, Ramey, Varon, Woodford, Kelly, Espinosa, Evans, Powers, Jenkins, Sattem (substitute), Atkinson, and Mielke