



Western Oregon
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EASTERN OREGON
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Southern OREGON
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Technical and Regional University Governance Update

TRU Commitments

- High-quality, affordable education for Oregonians
- 40-40-20
- Undergraduate focus
- Underserved populations
- Service to and partnership with the communities we serve
- Collaboration with Oregon universities, community colleges, & K-12



TRU Values/Similarities: Our Commitments

- Commitment to collaborating and to sharing services
- Commitment to keeping students' costs as low as possible
- Commitment to diverse educational opportunities and choices in Oregon by maintaining the distinctiveness of our respective campuses and our respective “brands”
- Commitment to maintaining and expanding operational and programmatic flexibility and nimbleness
- Commitment to financial viability and sustainability



WOU Points of Distinction

- Uniquely positive educational benefit to Oregon's underserved communities
- Strong commitment to serving Oregon's Latino community
- Most Oregon-serving of all OUS campuses
- Only midsize public university between Olympia WA and Ashland Oregon



WOU Strengths

- Nationally recognized for success in closing the achievement gap
- Most diverse university in OUS
- Has capacity to add 2,000+ more students
- Located within Willamette Valley
- High level of fiscal stability over past six years



EOU's Contribution to the State



- Only four year university serving the Eastern region of Oregon
 - Many students go to “EOU or they don’t go”
 - Highest “market share” in the 14 most eastern counties
 - 92% of students come from Oregon or boarder counties in WA and ID
- The Affordable option
 - Lowest tuition and fees and total cost of attendance
 - Highest percentage of Pell eligible and Pell Granted
 - Surpasses the Board’s requirement of Need Based Aid
- Primary access point for college through entire state—Not just a “regional” university
 - 16 Sites and Centers statewide—face-to-face and and online
 - Ontario to Gresham to Burns and Coos Bay
- Undergraduate focus—90%
- Unparalleled history of coordination with other universities, community colleges and K-12
 - Eastern Promise
 - Eastern Oregon Collaborative Colleges Consortium
 - University + Community College + K-12 partnerships
- Only TRU institution with statewide presence
- Offering APEL credit for non-traditional students

EOU's Contribution to the State



- Largest enrollments and graduates in history—quality and numbers:
 - Over 4,100 students and over 800 graduates
 - Over 75% acceptance to Medical, Pharmacy, Dental and Veterinary programs (100% in 2014)
 - Over 80% of graduates remain, or return, in the State
- Significant Community Support
 - Cited as single most important factor in economic and civic progress in region
 - Three straight record years in fundraising
 - One of the largest employers in Eastern Oregon
 - Regional Solutions Center
- Recent Accreditation Report—Commitment to:
 - Serving rural Oregon
 - Mission and purpose—comprehensive professional & liberal arts programs
 - Engaged leadership
- National leader in online education
- Extensive collaborations with local and regional communities
- Capacity for growth

SOU

Mission Statement : Southern Oregon University is an inclusive campus community dedicated to student success, intellectual growth, and responsible global citizenship.

Distinctive Characteristics

- Oregon's only member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges
- Largest employer in Ashland
- Largest majors educate the region's professional workforce
- Lowest "cost to educate" in OUS
- Over 1,100 high school students from 20 local schools enrolled in SOU classes
- Over 2,000 middle school students a year enrolled in Youth Programs
- Over 2,000 students each year do capstones, undergraduate research, internships, volunteer work in local communities



SOU Points of Pride

- One of the greenest universities in the U.S.
- Diverse students 20.4% of enrollment
- One of the top McNair Programs in the U.S.
- PEAK Jobs Program
- Honors College at SOU
- House Experience
- Over 1,000 students from out-of-state and other countries
- Powerful partnership with Oregon Shakespeare Festival and cultural organizations



Oregon Tech



- Pacific Northwest's only polytechnic university
- STEM focus (especially the "TE" part of STEM)
- Personal, hands-on learning environment, focusing on application of theory to practice
- Capping enrollment based on market need results in high starting salaries and post-graduate success
- Highest enrollment in Oregon Tech history = 4,414
- Strong presence in both rural and suburban Oregon
- Meeting Oregon's workforce needs for high-demand occupations

Oregon Tech



- Top-10 college in Western US (*US News & World Report*)
- Top-45 non-PhD engineering in US (*US News & World Report*)
- #3 public university in Oregon (*Forbes*)
- #1 ROI; #1 starting salary (\$56K); #1 mid-career salary (*PayScale*)
- 7 of top 27 online health-sciences programs (*GetEducated*)
- Top 10% of 2014 Best for Vets (*Military Times*)
- First Renewable Energy Engineering degree in US (*ABET*)
- #15 Best Buy online engineering masters degree (*GetEducated*)
- Will be only university in US with carbon-free renewable power
- 96% in jobs or grad/prof school within 6 months of graduation

Proposed Hybrid Governance Model

- We seek governance that provides:
 - Strong connections to our respective institutions and to our communities
 - Operational and programmatic flexibility
 - Strong partnership among our four TRU institutions
 - Support for our respective students, missions, and brands



Governing Board—Consortium Hybrid (aka, TRU Oregon Governance) Model

- Each TRU is governed by its own Board of Trustees with general supervision of the institution
- Between 11 and 15 members of the Board serve staggered terms as appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate
- One board member is a student; one is a faculty member; and one is a non-faculty member
- The president of each TRU is appointed by the Board of Trustees as its principal officer and serves at its pleasure
- The president is an ex-officio member of the board without the right to vote
- The four governing boards meet together once a year on one of the TRU campuses in conjunction with the Presidents' Council



Presidents' Council Overview

- Composed of the four TRU presidents and one member of each institution's governing board
- Chaired by one of the TRU presidents on a rotating basis
- Not a separate legal entity, but works to advance an advocacy and policy agenda to strengthen Oregon's technical and regional universities for the benefit of Oregonians
- Works together to provide oversight for TRU shared services
- Provides a collaborative forum to advance the policy and resource needs of the state's public technical and regional universities



Benefits of this Model



- Provides autonomy coupled with collaboration (i.e., both independence and interdependence)
- Establishes 40+ board members around Oregon who are knowledgeable and passionate about the TRU missions
- Provides enhanced opportunities to build on distinctiveness
- Provides greater number of voices for TRU support statewide
- Provides strong support and direction for each TRU campus, yet focuses on collaboration, finances, & distinctiveness
- Provides opportunities for lower cost through TRU shared services with structured oversight by presidents and boards
- Presidents' Council incentivizes opportunities for collaboration

Drawbacks to this Model

- Necessitates more board training and support
- Greater time commitments from presidents and staff
- Financial implications superficially similar to purely independent-board model



Shared Services and Governance



- University Shared Services Center becomes model for all seven campuses to share big-ticket items
- TRU Campuses continue discussion to address remaining services that can be shared efficiently, at lower cost
- Fiscal impact to TRU campuses is direct result of unbundling shared services; not choice of governance model
- TRU Presidents engage in extensive collaboration, considering SBHE and community input, and arrive at unique governance model

Next Steps

- Complete business plans, including analysis of new model, by February 2014 (perhaps including AGB advice)
- Express interest in new model to stakeholders
- Develop list of potential trustees for gubernatorial and legislative approval



Summary



- The TRU Oregon model provides appropriate flexibility for each TRU, yet formalizes collaboration, cooperation, and consideration of others
- TRU presidents also welcome partnerships with other public universities, private universities, community colleges, and K-12 (also outside Oregon)
- The TRUs need governance composed of individuals who understand and care passionately about our respective and shared missions and strongly represent our respective and collective interests on behalf of Oregonians
- The TRU Oregon model is an exciting opportunity for positive change (40-40-20; financial; student value) in this new environment
- We value the opportunity to work together as the four TRU presidents—and to have solid partnerships and collaboration among our other administrators as well as our faculty and students

Next Items in Today's Agenda

- Progress to Date on Affiliation (OT, EOU, SOU, WOU)
- Five-year Financial Projections (OT, EOU, SOU, WOU)

