

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Accreditation Self Study

**Prepared for the
Commission on Colleges
of the
Northwest Association
of Schools and Colleges**

March 2001

OSU Accreditation Steering Committee

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To the Commissioners:

Oregon State University is pleased to present this Accreditation Self Study to the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges as required for the April 2001 re-accreditation evaluation. The Self Study report, along with the accompanying appendices, exhibits, and college/departmental notebooks, has involved faculty, staff, students, and administrators from the entire campus community. It is the culmination of an intensive and extensive two-year campus-wide inquiry and analysis effort orchestrated and shepherded by the OSU Accreditation Steering Committee.

Throughout the process, the Accreditation Steering Committee engaged members of the campus community in a dialogue of self-examination; developed a lasting portrait of the campus, including its strengths and unique qualities, along with its problems, issues, and challenges; and used this opportunity to look beyond the actual requirements of the re-accreditation.

We have viewed the process as an opportunity to help change and enhance the University's role as an innovative leader in higher education. As a result of this self-examination effort, we now know considerably more about ourselves, and we fully intend to use this review, and the momentum engendered in this important effort, to continue to build upon a decade of achievement since the last full accreditation visit. We welcome the insights, perspectives, comments, and recommendations that will come from the evaluators' site visit.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the efforts of the dedicated faculty and staff who worked collaboratively with a common purpose — the sustained momentum and future of Oregon State University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul G. Risser".

Paul G. Risser
President

Oregon State University: Self Study

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Acknowledgments

The OSU Self Study involved the entire campus. Literally hundreds of committed, generous, and talented members of the University community participated in the re-accreditation self study process. From collecting and distilling the information, to analyzing and writing the first drafts, to the final review of the Self Study, every department and unit contributed, and everyone was encouraged to actively participate. As a result of campus-wide input and review, the OSU Accreditation Steering Committee believes that it has accurately assessed and provided a complete appraisal of the University as it existed during the 2000–2001 academic year.

The work of the OSU Accreditation Steering Committee and the OSU Accreditation Team was greatly aided by the collaborative efforts and supportive assistance of many administrators, faculty, and staff. Academic deans, department chairs/heads, administrative unit directors, and staff were particularly instrumental in providing the information needed to complete the self study process.

The OSU Accreditation Steering Committee gratefully acknowledges the valuable advice and insights provided by Dr. Larry Stevens, Deputy Executive Director of the NASC.

Finally, the many contributions and generous expertise of the following individuals are gratefully acknowledged: Dunya Nuaimi, Facility Services; Tina Chovanec, University Publications; Sandie Franklin and her team at Printing and Mailing Services; Michael Henthorne, the Memorial Union; Vickie Nunnemaker and Nancy Hoffman for editorial assistance; and Mark McCambridge and Michael Mallery, Budgets and Institutional Research. Especial appreciation is given to Barbara Sawyer for her expertise in rewriting the rough draft and her knowledge of the University, and to Cheryl McLean for her graphic design and for creating the unique look of the Self Study.

OSU Accreditation Steering Committee

The function of the Accreditation Steering Committee was to guide the self-study process, to analyze the result of that process, and to present the result in the form of a self-study document. The Committee composition was broadly represented by faculty, administrators, former staff members elevated to the professional faculty rank, and a student. Committee members were also selected based on the relevance of their position to the nine standards.

Members of the University community who constituted the OSU Accreditation Steering Committee and the standards that they co-chaired, are listed on the following page.

Accreditation Steering Committee

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Standard</i>
Ronald Lynn Adams	Dean, College of Engineering	2
Roy Arnold	Provost and Executive Vice President (to 1/00) Executive Associate Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences (from 2/00)	8
Leslie Burns	Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (to 12/00) Professor, Department of Apparel, Interiors, Housing, and Merchandising	2
Robert Burton, Chair	Chair, Department of Mathematics	1, 9
Karyle Butcher	University Librarian and Deputy Vice Provost for Information Services	5
Irma Delson	Director, Student Services, College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences	2
Andrew Hashimoto	Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (to 12/00)	1, 9
Wilson "Toby" Hayes	Vice Provost for Research	4
Susan Longerbeam	Co-Director, Student Health Center and Interim Dean of Students	3
Mark McCambridge	Assistant Vice President for Finance and Administration and Director, Budgets and Institutional Research	7
William McCaughan	Dean, Distance and Continuing Education	2
Margaret Niess	Past President of the Faculty Senate and Professor, Department of Science and Mathematics Education	6
Michael Quinn	Head, Department of Computer Science	4
Sabah Randhawa	Associate Dean, College of Engineering Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (from 1/01)	2
Justin Roach	President, ASOSU (from Spring 00)	3
Larry Roper	Vice Provost for Student Affairs	3
Henry Sayre	President of the Faculty Senate and Distinguished Professor, Department of Art	5
Robert Spector	Vice President for Finance and Administration	6
Margaret Swan	Interim Director, Office of Facilities Services	8
Victor Trembly	Chair, Department of Economics	7
Gary Beach	Coordinator, Assessment and Academic Programs, Office of Academic Affairs	Ex Officio
Gigi Bruce	Special Assistant to the Provost/Executive Vice President	Ex Officio
Timothy White	Provost and Executive Vice President	Ex Officio

OSU Accreditation Team

In addition to the OSU Accreditation Steering Committee, a core coterie of personnel from the Office of Academic Affairs, along with two outside consultants, together formed a cohesive team to ensure that the work of the Accreditation Steering Committee was completed and the copious details of the Self Study process were effectively managed.

OSU Accreditation Team

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>
Gary Beach	Coordinator, Assessment and Academic Programs, Office of Academic Affairs
Gigi Bruce	Special Assistant to the Provost/Executive Vice President
Robert Burton	Chair, OSU Accreditation Steering Committee; Chair, Department of Mathematics
Brandi Carter	Assistant to the Special Assistant to the Provost/Executive Vice President
Cheryl McLean	Graphic Designer and Consultant, ImPrint Services
Barbara Sawyer	Writer, Editor, and OSU Professor Emeritus
Marisa Shaw	Student Assistant, Office of Academic Affairs