Interinstitutional Faculty Senate
May 9-10, 2014
University of Oregon
Minutes

Present: EOU: Jeff Dense; OIT: Ryan Madden, Feng Shi; OHSU: Catherine Salveson; OSU: Mary Cluskey, Karen Hooker; PSU: Maude Hines, Robert Mercer, Candycce Reynolds; UO: Robert Kyr, Margie Paris; SOU: Charles Lane, Jody Waters; WOU: Ike Nail

Friday, May 9

12:30 – Call to Order

Campus Reports
- Appendix A
  - Eastern Oregon University
  - Oregon Health and Science University
  - Oregon Institute of Technology
  - Oregon State University
  - Portland State University
  - Southern Oregon University
  - University of Oregon
  - Western Oregon University

Retirement Plan Update – Jay Kenton, OUS Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration; Jaime Moffit, UO Vice President for Finance and Administration; Denise Yunker, OUS Chief Human Resources Officer

Jay stated that, on July 1, we will have three independent universities, and the remaining four TRU schools will be part of OUS until next year; the TRU schools have asked for their own boards after that. OUS may not exist after July 15th. There will be a shared governance organization – universities are required to work together on benefits, statewide bargaining, and risk management. There are seven shared services total; six of the seven will be hosted by Oregon State University (all but benefits, which the UO volunteered to host). OUS will transition management of benefit plans to UO.

Jamie stated that they want to have economies of scale and keep costs down.

Denise stated that the 600-hour retirement requirement was reconfigured a bit – if people make that requirement during their waiting period, they don’t have to worry about having 600 hours a year to keep contributing. The intent was to keep adjunct faculty from falling out of eligibility. She will send around a call for nominations for participation in a retirement committee so everyone can forward to their Senates.

Provosts’ Council Report – Maude Hines, PSU

The Provost’s have agreed that, when they have objections to new programs, they will resolve it in the Provosts’ Council before bringing it to HECC.

One question is whether certificate programs will go through Provosts’ Council. They said there wouldn’t be a minimum for certificate programs, and requirements should be in the purview of the faculty.

Maude would like to send around information in advance of these meetings, and would like IFS Senators to let her know what they want her to be on the lookout for.
Community College degree programs will be on the May 9th agenda, talking about the interface with four-year institutions.

HECC wants to convene faculty from high school, Community Colleges, and Universities to discuss ideas for aligning courses and curriculum. A JBAC proposal will come before HECC in June.

Achievement compacts are the same as for the last three years.

The Provosts’ Council is interested in IFS’s relationship with HECC. Maude explained that, so far, we’re very interested in building a relationship with HECC. They are talking at their retreat on May 9th about how they want to interface with IFS.

Discussion: Jeff stated that the possibility of a tuition freeze will be on the table at the next legislative session. On May 16th there will be a legislative meeting on the conditions being placed on granting Eastern and Southern boards. Western and OIT have no conditions on their board.

Saturday, May 10

**Teleconference** – Karen Marrongelle, OUS Vice Chancellor

It was voted to give SOU & EOU boards with conditions. They are working on getting those conditions worked out. Everyone agrees on the metrics, but the timeline for those metrics is the sticking point. Everyone is hopeful they’ll be able to reach a compromise. They have a board meeting on May 16th to vote on those conditions.

Jeff stated that IFS is concerned about cuts to programs, which doesn’t serve the best interest of students. Karen said she would bring this to Melody Rose.

Karen stated that there is a need to assess what are the impacts of the boards on issues for students.

Karen stated that people ultimately selected for boards will have to go through some kind of training at the institution. Karen thought her office could help in getting some members a jump start by allowing them to serve on the State Board of Higher Education for a year to gain experience. They are trying to be helpful in the transition.

OUS is experiencing pretty significant staff attrition. They have proposed that the board meet four times next year and suspend the committee structure. They don’t have much to do besides looking at financials and approving programs.

Karen stated that there was an academic strategies retreat with the Provost’s yesterday (May 9th). The Provost’s are currently drafting a charge, and are committed to continuing to work together. The President’s council is also getting up and running.

The Provost’s Council wrote in language to have a standing invitation for a representative from IFS & HECC at each meeting. Jeff stated that having an ex-officio position without vote would be more concrete. Karen stated that they talked about that but decided not to. She will ask for more information about the reasoning.

JBAC is continuing, and HECC is still convening.

Rob asked who is keeping track of the transformation and the effect it will have on the faculty and students in particular. Karen said that they are thinking a lot about those issues, but there is no real way to measure that. They are keeping track and formalizing how things
are transitioning, but there are no plans on their side to track how this is going to have an effect on students and faculty, which is a gap.

Karen asked how IFS will convene past July. Jeff stated that he is in consultation with Chair Nesbit and Executive Director Cannon, and they’ve established a good connection to HECC. IFS will continue to discuss how to interface with all stakeholder groups. Maude stated that the IFS Bylaws have now been ratified by all campus Senates.

Discussion:
Jeff stated that he wants to get IFS inserted into statutory language and get put on as a regular agenda item with HECC.

There was discussion amongst IFS Senators about the importance of the issue of program approval and the need to make that process work. There is concern for how this is going to happen, and a possible backlog. Jeff stated that IFS needs to be proactive about this issue. He is working with key stakeholders. Catherine stated that IFS has a direct line to constituents, which is powerful.

IFS Senators agreed to ask their respective Provosts some questions about how academic program approval will move forward. IFS Senators will share the results of that discussion with the group, and Jody will compile everything.

Questions for Provosts:
- Can you summarize your recent discussion about academic program review in the Provosts' Council?
- How do you envision the academic program review process under HECC?
- How should the scope of academic programs be defined?
- Who should be included in the process of program approval and review?
- What has worked well, and what needs to be changed?
- What should happen to an academic program proposal after it receives approval?

Jody will summarize responses. Maude will share and discuss this at the next Provosts’ Council.

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**President’s Report** – Jeff Dense

Jeff stated that he is working on showing IFS value to stakeholder groups and ensuring that IFS has a seat at the table.

HECC wants to expand the Oregon Opportunity Grant. Students can start earning Oregon Opportunity Grant credits while in high school. They want to expand the funding for this, because right now only 20% of students are funded. They want to provide support for a lot of students, particularly low income. They want to keep the cost of education constant, so they may look at a tuition freeze.

HECC requested $3.5 million in emergency funding. Some will support a data and research team. Some will go to TRUs for “transition in governance.” It’s unclear how much that money is.

On September 1st, HECC will propose a budget to the governor, which will be an all-inclusive request.

OIEB will deal with key strategic investments. Jeff is working on getting more involved with OIEB. There was discussion about interfacing with OIEB.
Budget requests are capped at 20% of last year. Universities must be able to show attainment of 40/40/20 goals. One of the primary concerns for these achievements is serving disadvantaged students.

IFS President Statement – Jeff read his statement for HECC’s upcoming meeting and IFS Senators offered feedback. Jeff will present this statement at the meeting at which HECC will vote regarding the conditions on the Eastern and Southern boards. There was discussion about the purpose of this statement and ensuring the statement accomplishes that purpose. One of the main purposes is to try to ensure no further program cuts will be made in order to meet fiscal metrics.

Scott Coltrane – University of Oregon Provost

The Provost’s are working on a draft charge amongst their members. They will have a public meeting, probably including a representative from HECC and IFS, to talk about their proposal, and then would be bringing the draft to HECC.

They also talked about staffing for the Provosts’ Council – discussed treating this as a shared service. There may be need for a part-time staff person.

They look forward to collaborating with IFS.

IFS Senators asked for feedback on the questions they will be bringing to all Provost’s.

Jody asked about online programs, and stated that it may be useful to consider building diligence into online delivery and assessment program review.

Scott stated that one big change will be that board approval will be done first. Then the Provosts’ Council would do something advisory for HECC. How that moves forward with this new structure is still not totally set.

Continuing Resolution #1:

The IFS Executive Committee met for the first time. There were several suggestions:
- Any testimony/statement should be collaborated on. The IFS President will seek guidance and input, with the understanding that sometimes things have to change a bit at the last minute.
- There will be a list of continuing resolutions on the website.

Action: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Continuing Resolution #2:

IFS meetings will not be scheduled at a time when one university would be entirely absent. That is, unless at least one representative from each university will attend, no meeting will be scheduled.

Action: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Election for IFS Secretary

Jeff stated that his view is that the Secretary doesn’t always have to take notes. They may be able to get some administrative support. The secretary will also participate on the Executive Committee.
Jody Waters (SOU) was nominated and subsequently elected.

Action: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

For the Good of the Order

OSU will host next meeting, likely the weekend of October 4th and 5th, 2014.

All IFS Senators commended UO Senate President Margie Paris for her service on IFS.

12:30 – Adjourn