SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WOU BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING NO. 34 – AUGUST 19, 2020 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

For audio only, call: 1-669-900-9128 or 1-253-215-8782 | Meeting ID: 931 4369 6900 ##

AGENDA

- I. CALL-TO-MEETING / ROLL CALL
- II. CHAIR'S WELCOME
- III. BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION
 - 1) WOU Fall 2020 Safe Operations and Instructional Plan (page 2)
 - 2) Article 15 Process | July 29 2020 Town Hall Update
- XI. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
- XII. ADJOURNMENT



Fall 2020 Safe Operations and Instructional Plan

Presented to WOU Board of Trustees August 19, 2020



Western Oregon University—Fall 2020 Safe Operations and Instruction Plan

Background and planning

Western Oregon University formed a reopening task force that began its regularly scheduled meetings in May 2020. Before that time, individual groups were working on various aspects of planning for fall 2020. For example, housing worked to develop several alternatives and these efforts were informed by conversations with other campuses in Oregon. A principal coordinating group has been the Provosts' Council of the Oregon Council of Presidents. The provosts have met regularly with HECC and additional campus representatives to drive the reopening process.

The formal WOU Reopening Planning Group began with Cabinet and members of the campus emergency planning team. Since its inception the work of the group has been coordinated by Dave McDonald, Associate Vice President for Public Affairs and Strategic Initiatives. The group has added key campus representatives from its unions and student government, and key functional areas of campus to allow for broad-based discussion and decision making. Additionally, the campus has held multiple virtual town halls on its plans as they develop. These meetings were held in early May and again in late June. The purpose was to share the latest scenarios and to garner input on the process and key issues. The WOU Board of Trustees was briefed on the various alternatives at its meeting in June.

Throughout the process of responding to COVID-19, the university has been guided by Executive Orders from Governor Kate Brown, most notably EO 20-09, EO 20-17, and EO 20-28. These orders provided guidance for higher education instruction and include minimum standards. EO 20-28 requires Western to:

develop, and submit to its governing board, and the governing board must approve a written plan describing how the institution will comply with the standards referenced in paragraph 3 of this Executive Order and such other relevant guidance as the HECC may promulgate to implement this Executive Order. In developing such plans, public universities and community colleges must consult with local public health authorities and are encouraged to consult with representatives of other interested parties, including but not limited to administration, faculty, classified staff, and students. The board shall submit a copy of the approved plan to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC).

Furthermore, the plan must be approved by the Board of Trustees by September 1, 2020.

On June 12, 2020, HECC and the Oregon Health Authority issued *Guidance for the Conduct of In-Person Instructional, Residential, and Research Activities at Oregon Colleges and Universities*. The remainder of this plan follows this guidance. In general, the Oregon Health Authority will adopt standards that "may include, but are not limited to, requirements for face coverings, physical distancing, sanitization, monitoring, and isolation procedures. These standards may be amended from time to time."

Plan Development

Eleme	ent	Status	
Plan I	Plan Development: Required		
0	Every public university and community college shall develop a written operational plan that addresses how the institution is meeting the requirements of this guidance.	Completed	
0	Prior to September 1, 2020, in-person activities at public universities and community colleges may resume prior to the submission and approval of their institutional operational plans, as long as they meet the requirements of this guidance.	In-progress	
0	All colleges and universities must designate an employee or officer to implement and enforce, or supervise the implementation or enforcement, of the standards and requirements provided in this guidance and established in the institution's operational plan.	Completed— assigned to Allen Risen	
0	Each college or university must establish or designate a complaint process or processes for receiving and responding to concerns regarding these matters.	Online form with HR & MarCom	
Plan I	Development: Recommended		
Colleg	es and universities are recommended to:		
0	Assemble a planning team to develop an institutional operational plan;	Completed	
0	Consult their local public health authority (LPHA) and familiarize themselves with the disease management metrics within the health region or regions in which their institution and its campuses reside; and	Completed and on-going	
0	Consult with students, faculty, staff and others in the community in developing an institutional operational plan.	Completed and On-going	

Ele	ement	Status
	Public Health Review: Required Community colleges and public universities shall submit their	
op LP	erational plan to their local public health authority (LPHA). Their HA will review the plan and support their efforts towards ongoing OVID-19 mitigation efforts.	
Fir	nal Plan Submission: Required	
Pu	blic universities and community colleges shall:	Pending BOT
0	Not later than September 1, 2020, each public university and community college must develop, and submit to its governing board, and the governing board must approve, the operational plan.	action: 08/19/20
0	Ensure that their governing board, at each regular board meeting,	
	reviews the operational plan and any amendments thereto.	On-going at quarterly meetings
0	Following the approval of their governing board, submit their	9
	operational plan to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. The operational plan shall be resubmitted to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission upon any significant amendments.	Pending action
Fin	nal Plan Submission <i>: Recommended</i>	
0	Colleges and universities are encouraged to post their operational	
	plan on their institution's website	
		Reopening
		plan posted

Reopen Plan

The mainstays of reducing exposures to the coronavirus and other respiratory pathogens are:

- 1. Physical distancing minimizing close contact (<6 feet) with other people
- 2. Hand hygiene frequent washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer
- 3. Cohorts conducting all activities in small groups that remain together over time with minimal mixing of groups
- 4. Protective equipment use of face coverings, barriers, etc.
- 5. Environmental cleaning and disinfection especially of high-touch surfaces
- 6. Isolation of those who are sick and quarantine of those who have been exposed
- 7. With the above considerations foremost, outdoor activities are safer than indoor activities.

Each college and university will have the flexibility to determine how and when students return, but must meet, at a minimum, the public health requirements contained in this document.

College and university determinations about the resumption of on-site operations must be informed by local circumstances and regional readiness, in consultation with their Local Public Health Authority (LPHA).

Colleges and universities shall provide the greatest level of choice and flexibility to equitably support student access and success in their education while minimizing risks to students and staff.

Ele	ment	Status	
Gei	neral requirements: Colleges and universities shall:	Completed	
0	Follow Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) General Guidance for Employers on COVID-19.		
0	Encourage students, staff, faculty, and other community members to follow OHA's Public Guidance and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) public guidance on COVID-19.	In process. Communications will occur throughout the year.	
0	Implement measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 within buildings and the campus setting, such as appropriate cleaning and disinfecting procedures; screening, monitoring, and testing for illness among symptomatic students, staff, and faculty; and use of face coverings, as more fully described in this document.	Completed	
0	Permit remote instruction/telework or make other reasonable accommodations for students and employees who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 including those with any of the following characteristics: • People 65 years and older	Fall reopen plans allow for face-to- face classes, remote/online classes, and hybrid	

	 People with chronic lung disease (other than mild asthma) People who have serious heart conditions People who are immunocompromised People with obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher); People with diabetes; People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; People with liver disease; and Any other medical conditions identified by OHA, CDC or a licensed health care provider. 	(i.e., a mix of synchronous and asynchronous remote) Higher risk students are advised to enroll in remote options or reach out to the Office of Disability Services to explore potential accommodation options. ods @wou.edu or 503-838-8250 (voice) Higher risk employees are advised to contact Human Resources to explore their options of remote telework, EFLMA,
0	Recommend the use of face coverings for all students, staff, and faculty, in accordance with local public health, OHA, and CDC guidelines.	and/or the ADA. Completed. Policy established to comply.
0	Require the use of face coverings in settings where six feet of physical distance between people is difficult to maintain.	
0	For college- or university-operated retail establishments, restaurants, transportation, recreational sports, swimming pools, childcare, camps, events or other functions that are not addressed in this standards document, follow the relevant OHA guidance for the respective sector.	Completed. All relevant OHA guidance will continue to be followed
0	Work with their local public health authority (LPHA) to ensure they are able to effectively respond to and control outbreaks through sharing of information when appropriate	Completed. Work with Polk County Health will continue.

Entry and self-screening: Co	lleges and universities s	shall:
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o Allow campus spaces and buildings to be open only for official college or university business. Campus spaces and buildings should not be open to the general public. Colleges and universities may allow campus use for authorized community programs that lack alternative venues, if programs can adhere to the requirements in this or other applicable guidance.

Completed.
Campus building
use is restricted to
official use
purposes only.

 Encourage students, staff, and faculty to perform appropriate hand hygiene upon their arrival to campus every day: washing with soap and water for 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60-95% alcohol.

In-progress within plan, supplies will be provided.

 Require students, staff, and faculty to conduct a self-check for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to a campus. Instruct students, faculty, and staff to stay at their residence if they have COVID-19 symptoms. COVID-19 symptoms are as follows: Draft completed.
Digital form will be completed with aggregated results.

- Primary symptoms of concern: cough, fever or chills, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing
- Note that muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, nasal congestion, and runny nose are also symptoms often associated with COVID-19, but are non-specific. More information about COVID-19 symptoms is available from CDC here.
- Emergency signs and symptoms that require immediate medical attention:
 - Trouble breathing
 - Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
 - New confusion or inability to awaken
 - Bluish lips or face
 - Other severe symptoms
 - Faculty, staff, or students who have a chronic or baseline cough that has worsened or is not well-controlled with medication should stay at their place of residence. Those who have other symptoms that are chronic or baseline symptoms should not be restricted.

Isolation Measures

Colleges and universities shall take steps to ensure that if a student, staff, or faculty member develops or reports primary COVID-19 symptoms while on campus:

- o The person should immediately return to their place of residence, or isolate in a designated isolation area, until they can safely return to their residence or be transported to a health care facility. Students whose place of residence is within a campus residence hall shall be isolated in a designated isolation area, with staff support and symptom monitoring by a health professional wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- o The person should seek medical care and COVID-19 testing from their regular health care provider or through the local public health authority. They should follow instructions from their local public health authority regarding isolation.
 - If the person has a positive COVID-19 viral (PCR) test, they should remain at their place of residence for at least 10 days after illness onset and 72 hours after fever is gone, without use of fever reducing medicine, and other symptoms are improving.
 - If the person has a negative viral test (and if they have multiple tests, all tests are negative), they should remain at their place of residence until 72 hours after fever is gone, without use of fever reducing medicine, and other symptoms are improving.
 - If the person does not undergo COVID-19 testing, the person should remain at their place of residence until 72 hours after fever is gone, without use of fever reducing medicine, and other symptoms are improving.
- Any faculty, staff, or student known to have been exposed (e.g., by a household member) to COVID- 19 within the preceding 14 days should stay in their place of residence and follow instructions from local public health authority.

Health-related communication: Colleges and universities shall:

o Advise faculty and staff that working while ill is not permitted.

Support for isolated staff, consideration will be given to separate student and employee protocols. Staff are covered by the EFMLEA, if a staff member is symptomatic at work, the supervisor should immediately send the staff member home and alert HR.

Quarantine/Isolation areas on campus housing will be provided to oncampus students first. If space is available, offcampus students may utilize the space (we need to determine funding/how to account for the expense of housing off campus students in on campus quarantine spaces). Possible OHA funds to be explored

Completed.

In-progress within plan

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0	Ensure that faculty and staff remain current on health trainings. They should anticipate need for additional faculty and staff training related to increased precautions and updated protocols. Administrators could collaborate with health professionals to provide evidence-based education.	In-progress within plan
0	Advise students, faculty, and staff not residing on campus to stay at their place of residence if they or anyone in their household have recently had an illness with COVID-19 symptoms. See "Entry and self-screening", above.	In-progress within plan
0	Advise and encourage all people on campus to wash their hands frequently. Alcohol-based hand sanitizing products may be used an alternative to handwashing, except before eating, preparing or serving food, and after using the restroom.	In-progress within plan
0	Provide ongoing training to custodial staff on cleaning protocols and COVID-19 safety requirements.	Completed
0	Develop a letter or communication to faculty and staff to be shared at the start of on-campus education and at periodic intervals explaining infection control measures that are being implemented to prevent spread of disease. Alternatively, share protocols themselves.	In-progress within plan
0	In partnership with local public health authorities, develop protocols for communicating with students, faculty, and staff who have come into close/sustained contact with a person with COVID- 19.	Part of contact tracing project
0	In partnership with local public health authorities, develop protocols for communicating immediately with students, faculty, staff, and the community when new case(s) of COVID-19 are diagnosed in students, faculty, or staff, including a description of how the institution is responding.	IGA established. Plan between county and WOU developed; (eight students selected to help with the tracing (will include 20 hours of training)— OHA funding
0	Provide all trainings, protocols, informational letters and other communications in languages and formats accessible to their campus community.	In progress

	Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette: Colleges and universities shall:			
0	Use signage and other communications to remind students, faculty, and staff about the utmost importance of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette. • Hand hygiene means washing with soap and water for 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60-95% alcohol. • Respiratory etiquette means covering coughs and sneezes with an elbow, or a tissue, especially when not wearing a mask. Tissues should be disposed of and hands washed or sanitized immediately.	Needs to be completed		
0	Provide hand hygiene stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizer in high use areas such as entrances to buildings and classrooms and other areas, as feasible. Strongly encourage students to use hand sanitizer on entry and exit to each room.	In-progress. Supplies ordered		
Fac	ulty and staff: Colleges and universities shall:			
O	Ensure that campus health care providers have the personal protective equipment that they need to see students safely. As appropriate, provide face masks, shields, N95 masks, gloves, and protective clothing for health and other personnel who might interact with ill staff or students. Local public health can help if colleges and universities are unable to obtain PPE through usual channels.	In-progress and on- going		
0	If feasible, arrange for fit testing for N95 masks and PPE training for health care and other personnel who might interact with ill faculty, staff or students.	In-progress and on- going		
0	Review and revise where necessary sick-leave and absentee policies to minimize any incentives to work while ill.	Completed		
Ger	neral facilities: Colleges and universities shall:			
0	Clean and disinfect facilities frequently, generally at least daily when there is activity, to prevent transmission of the virus from surfaces. CDC provides guidance on disinfecting public spaces. See CDC's "Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes": https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html	Completed. Cleaning will continue as needed.		

o Consider modification or enhancement of building ventilation where feasible. Air circulation and filtration are important factors in reducing airborne viruses. Guidance on ventilation and filtration is provided by CDC (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-	
ncov/community/guidance-business- response.html) and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) (https://www.ashrae.org/news/ashraejournal/guidance-for-building-operations-during-the-covid-19-pandemic).	
o Open windows where feasible to reduce recirculation of air and transmission of airborne pathogens. Completed continue we and occupate permitting.	eather
Instructional Activities: For all <i>general</i> instruction offered for courses that lead to a certificate or degree, colleges and universities shall:	
o Establish a minimum of 35 square feet per person when determining room capacity, calculated based only on usable classroom space.	
In-person classroom instruction shall not exceed 50 persons, or greater than 25 persons in counties that are at Baseline or in Phase One.	
o Modify the physical layout of classrooms to permit students to maintain at least six feet of distance between one another and the instructor(s). This may include changes to traffic flow, desk or chair arrangements, or maximum capacity.	
o Utilize markings and/or signage to indicate physical distancing requirements within instructional settings. Installation commence	
o For settings with higher risk of spread, such as laboratories, computer labs, music/performance classes, studios, and locker rooms, implement enhanced measures such as greater physical distancing, physical barriers (e.g. clear plastic), increased fresh air ventilation, moving outdoors, and enhanced cleaning measures as feasible.	and on-
o Physical barriers are acceptable instead of, or in addition to, six feet or more of spacing between people. Please see OHA General Guidance for Employers on COVID-19. In-progress going. Mat ordered.	
Instructional Activities: For all instruction and assessment in fields leading to certificates and degrees in the health professions, colleges and universities shall:	
o For laboratory instruction or demonstration of clinical skills without Not applica	ble

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- Modify the physical layout of classrooms to permit students to maintain at least six feet of distance between each other and the instructor(s);
- Ensure monitoring and enforcement of physical distancing requirements at all times; and
- Perform enhanced cleaning before and after each session.
- o For standardized patient simulations or laboratory instruction in close quarters or practicing clinical skills with physical contact:
 - Provide mandatory instruction on infection control practices and the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
 - Require use of appropriate PPE for all personnel that come within six feet of each other; and
 - Perform enhanced cleaning before and after each session.
- o For preceptorships, observerships, and direct patient care:
 - Provide mandatory instruction on infection control practices and the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
 - Strictly adhere to the clinical facility's infection control protocols;
 - Confirm that the clinical facilities have the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for their students who are involved in direct patient care within those facilities;
 - Conduct regular symptom monitoring of students;
 - Follow the facility's occupational health protocols if exposed and/or symptoms develop, including immediate exclusion from all patient care, testing for SARS-CoV-2, and mandatory reporting to university or college student health unit;
 - Perform cleaning and disinfecting per the facility's protocols.

Research Activities: Colleges and universities shall ensure the following for research activity:

- Research offices, labs, core facilities, and field locations shall be modified to ensure appropriate physical distancing, consistent with state and local public health guidelines, and with reduced capacity as/if necessary.
- o Human subjects research shall be permitted only if six-foot physical distancing can be maintained or can be completed with minimal physical contact while wearing appropriate PPE and/or use of a physical barrier, and with additional limits to protect vulnerable

Not applicable

Not applicable

Completed as needed

In Progress. IRB Policy drafted

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	oppulations.	
	ential Activities: Colleges and universities that provide residential es shall:	
0	Take into consideration CDC guidance for shared or congregate housing;	Completed
0	Not allow more than two students to share a residential dorm room unless alternative housing arrangements are impossible; ensure at least 64 square feet of room space per resident;	
0	Reduce overall residential density to ensure that colleges/universities maintain sufficient space for the isolation of sick or potentially infected individuals, as necessary;	
0	Treat roommates/suitemates as family units for cohort isolation and quarantine protocols;	
0	Configure common spaces to maximize physical distancing;	
0	Provide enhanced cleaning; and	
0	Establish plans for the containment and isolation of on- campus cases, including consideration of PPE, food delivery, and bathroom needs.	
	nunicable Disease Management Plan	
manage public studer as new offices authorwith COHA	leges and universities shall have a written communicable disease gement plan. The plan must include protocols to notify the local health authority (LPHA) of any confirmed COVID-19 cases among its, faculty or staff; process and record-keeping to assist the LPHA eded with contact tracing; a protocol to isolate or quarantine any ill losed persons; plans for systematic disinfection of classrooms, is, bathrooms and activity areas; coordinating with local public rity on contingency planning for response to a person diagnosed COVID-19 who had been in a campus facility. Plans must adhere to and CDC guidance for controlling spread of COVID-19 (see urces).	Completed (page 49)
Each	college and university shall:	
0	Report to the local public health authority any cluster of illness (two or more people with similar illness) among staff or students.	WOU will continue to work with Polk County Health in
0	If anyone who has been on campus is known to have been diagnosed with COVID-19, report the case to and consult with the local public health authority (LPHA) regarding cleaning and possible classroom or campus closure. See Resources for the LPHA directory.	this area.

EO 20-28

- 1. <u>Definitions</u>: For purposes of this Executive Order, "colleges and universities" include public universities listed in ORS 352.002, a community college operated under ORS chapter 341, and degree-granting private colleges and universities that operate in Oregon.
- 2. Restrictions: Pursuant to my emergency powers under ORS 433.441(3)(a) and (d), ORS 401.175(1), and ORS 401.188(2) and (3), it is ordered that the conduct of in-person instruction leading towards a degree or certificate, research, and residential activities at colleges and universities shall be subject to restrictions, effective June 14, 2020. Namely, in-person instruction, research, and residential activities at colleges and universities may only take place if they comply with the minimum standards described in paragraph 3, below, and the directives in this Executive Order.
- 3. Minimum standards for in-person instructional, research, and residential activities: The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt minimum standards for the conduct of in-person instructional, research, and residential activities at colleges and universities. Standards may include, but are not limited to, requirements for face coverings, physical distancing, sanitization, monitoring, and isolation procedures. These standards may be amended from time to time.
- 4. Written plan: Not later than September 1, 2020, each public university and community college must develop, and submit to its governing board, and the governing board must approve, a written plan describing how the institution will comply with the standards referenced in paragraph 3 of this Executive Order and such other relevant guidance as the HECC may promulgate to implement this Executive Order. In developing such plans, public universities and community colleges must consult with local public health authorities, and are encouraged to consult with representatives of other interested parties, including but not limited to administration, faculty, classified staff, and students. The board shall submit a copy of the approved plan to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). The governing board of each public university or community college must, at each regular board meeting, review the plan referenced in this paragraph, and any amendments thereto. Private colleges and universities are encouraged to develop and submit such plans as well.
- 5. <u>Internal enforcement and complaint process</u>: Each college and university must designate an employee or officer to implement, and enforce, or supervise the implementation or enforcement, of the requirements in paragraph 3, the written plan described in paragraph 4, and such other related guidance as the HECC may promulgate. Each college or university must establish or designate a complaint process or processes for receiving and responding to concerns regarding these matters.
- 6. Other Activities: Other college and university functions beyond in person instruction leading towards a degree or certificate, research and residential activities (including but not limited to on-campus childcare, youth camps, administration, athletics, retail businesses, and restaurants) must comply with other applicable Executive Orders and sector-specific OHA guidance, including but not limited to gatherings and venue guidance applicable to the re-

opening phase where the county the college or university is located.

7. <u>Further Guidance:</u> The HECC shall provide further guidance regarding the OHA guidance referenced in paragraph 3 of this Executive Order, the directives in this Executive Order, as well as other Executive Orders that may impact colleges and universities, as necessary, and may amend such guidance from time to time.

Oregon General Guidance for Employers on COVID-19

General considerations for your workplace:

- Comply with any of the Governor's Executive Orders that are in effect.
- Know the <u>signs and symptoms of COVID-19</u> and what to do if employees develop symptoms at the workplace.
- Understand how COVID-19 is transmitted from one person to another—namely, through coughing, sneezing, talking, touching, or via objects touched by someone with the virus.
- Make health and safety a priority by implementing safeguards to protect employees and the public. Federal and state guidelines, including sector-specific guidance, will help you determine which safeguards are recommended or are required.
 - CDC has detailed <u>general guidance</u> to help small businesses and employees prepare for the effects of COVID-19.
 - o Oregon's Mask and Face Covering Guidance for Business, Transit and the Public
 - Oregon's specific guidelines for specific sectors can be found <u>here</u>.
- Consider modifying employee schedules and travel to reduce unnecessary close physical contact (physical distance of less than (6) six feet between people).
- Be aware of protected leave requirements and plan ahead for any anticipated workforce adjustments.

Modification of employee schedules and travel:

Considerations for modifying employee schedules and travel as feasible:

- Identify positions appropriate for telework or partial telework, including consideration of telework for employees who are at higher risk for severe COVID-19 complications due to underlying medical conditions identified by the CDC.
- Stagger or rotate work schedules or shifts at worksites to ensure employees are able to sufficiently maintain physical distancing.
- · Limit non-essential work travel.