



**Western Oregon University Board of Trustees:
Academic & Student Affairs Committee
Meeting No. 20 – Feb 2 2021
2:00pm – 4:00pm**

AGENDA

I. CALL-TO-MEETING AND ROLL CALL

Committee members: Jaime Arredondo, Susan Castillo, Malissa Larson, Linda Herrera

Others present- Chelle Batchelor, Kathy Cassity, Amy Clark, Gary Dukes, Hillary Fouts, Dirk Freymuth, Mark Girod, Sue Kunda, David McDonald, Sue Monahan, Chris Solario, Ariel Zimmer Suel, Annika Thompson, LouAnn Vickers, Niki Weight, Misty Weitzel, Bev West, Rob Winningham

II. COMMITTEE CHAIR'S WELCOME

Trustee Arredondo called the meeting to order at 2:02pm on Feb 2nd.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

1) Meeting Minutes: Trustee Castillo moved to adopt the minutes from last meeting without changes. Trustee Larson seconded and the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. ACTION ITEMS:

1) Proposal for new degree program:

a. Graduate Certificate in Social Justice

b. Graduate Certificate in Advanced Juvenile Justice

Dr. Misty Weitzel presented the two graduate certificates, then reviewed them with the committee. There are no budget implications with these proposals, and there are few competing majors in the state.

Trustee Larson made a motion to approve Graduate Certificate in Social Justice. Trustee Herrera seconded the motion. The certificate was unanimously approved.

Trustee Larson made a motion to approve the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Juvenile justice. Trustee Arredondo seconded the motion. The certificate was unanimously approved.

c. Creative Productions Major

Dirk Freymuth presented on the Creative Productions Major and reviewed the proposal with the committee. There are no budget implications for this major and it reflects years of planning with various creative arts faculty.

Trustee Larson moved to approve Creative Productions Major. Trustee Castillo seconded the motion. The Creative Productions major was approved unanimously.

d. Master of Science in Justice Studies



Dr. Misty Weitzel and Dr. Sue Monahan presented the Major of Science in Justice Studies proposal and reviewed the proposal with the committee. Trustee Arredondo moved to approve the proposal. Trustee Castillo seconded the motion. The proposal was approved unanimously.

V. REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1) COVID-19 Update

Provost Winningham gave a few updates regarding the university and COVID 19, including the contact tracing team from WOU that is now doing most contact tracing for the Polk County. This has also led to a partnership with West Valley Hospital opening a vaccination clinic in the Werner University Center, Pacific Room. The WOU Human Resources Office has provided West Valley with a randomized list of WOU employees that serve as front-line workers during the pandemic. In the event that there is an overage of vaccinations at the end of the day, West Valley is offering vaccinations to these employees in order to not waste the vaccine.

Dr. Gary Dukes updated the committee regarding the process by which students receive COVID testing as they are moving back into the residence hall at the beginning of each term. Athletics assisted with the testing, and in turn, athletes were able to be tested after students moved in. Increased restrictions required closure of the Student Health and Wellness Center at the beginning of December, but this last week restrictions were eased making it permissible to open next week. Most student programs are still functioning on a virtual platform.

Dr. Dukes noted that students who are enrolled online are currently not able to access health and counseling center; however, conversations have begun regarding what might be offered in the Spring term.

2) Student Affairs Update

Dr. Dukes reported on the trends with incoming student applications, as well as an update regarding the Preview Day that is upcoming. Most students attending the event are prospective freshmen or transfer students, which is a different trend than most winter Preview Days. Enrollment is being impacted due to the current uncertainty with COVID-19, students are making decisions later which is assumed to be due to the uncertainty of class modality in the fall.

Dr. Dukes also gave some staff and structure updates within Student Affairs, including an open position with Abby's House and the Veteran's Resource Center.

3) Academic Affairs Update

Provost Winningham provided an update on the division of Academic Affairs. He provided an overview of the recently launched CircleIn app, a tool for students to connect with each other, as well as providing an incentive to engage with others and WOU.

He also provided an update on the nudge program which is operated by the Student Success & Advising (SSA) office. The data he shared showed how the program is being successful in helping students register for classes. In addition to the nudge program, the



Degree Completion outreach, also through the SSA, has worked with 108 students who will be graduating after Winter 2021. This outreach program began in January 2020.

Melissa Hinzman, an advisor from the SSA office, was selected as Advisor of the Year for our region. Dr. Margaret Manoogian was selected for Faculty Advisor for our region.

Provost Winningham gave updates regarding Academic Innovation and the programs they have launched to assist students and faculty while the university is providing online coursework. He also updated regarding the ways WOU faculty and departments are engaging in the community during the pandemic, including inclusion training for local law enforcement and city employees. Other faculty and student groups have continued to engage students and the community through various events, both virtual and socially distanced.

VI. SHOWCASE: WOU's Journey to Becoming a More Diverse Institution

Provost Winningham shared a PowerPoint presentation that Dr. Kathy Espino Perez and Dave McDonald presented to the Board of Trustees in April 2019.

Dr. Dukes also presented on how the university is making changes to become more diverse, as well as pursuing a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) designation.

Trustee Herrera spoke of her experience with outreach done by Student Affairs, as well as some suggestions for WOU to continue to grow and serve the Lantix community. These suggestions included adding signage on campus in Spanish.

Trustee Castillo also offered more suggestions with what could be done with elementary and middle school students who might not otherwise get exposure.

Trustee Arredondo noted that this is not only about becoming an HSI, but rather, becoming more of a reflection of the diverse makeup of Oregon as a whole.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Arredondo adjourned the meeting at 4:01pm.