



**MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY
October 22, 2015, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Dixie Lund Board Room, Inlow Hall 201**

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Mendoza called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Roll call was taken with the following being present: George Mendoza, Dixie Lund, Jer Pratton, Patricia Hinton, Cheryl Martin, Elsie Praeger-Goller and President Tom Insko.

A quorum of the committee was present.

Also present was: Sarah Witte (Provost), Xavier Romano (VP Student Services), guests: Danny Mielke (Interim Dean Colleges of Business and Education), Jeremy D. Jones (Director of Residence Life), Kim Sanders (Assistant Director of Admissions for Operations), and support staff: Angie Adams and Molly Burke.

Additional persons present were: Chris Burford (General Counsel), Nancy Knowles (faculty member) and James Biederbeck (guest of Ms. Praeger-Goller).

Announcements:

None

Action Items:

Minutes from the September 16, 2015 meeting and the Special Meeting held at 8:00 am, October 22, 2015 were presented for approval. Praeger-Goller moved to approve and Martin seconded the motion. **By unanimous approval, the minutes of both September 16, 2015 and the Special Meeting held October 22, 2015 were accepted as presented.**

Update of Regional Center Review:

Due to illness, Donald Wolff, Interim Vice Provost, was unable to be present. This topic will be revisited at a later date.

Academic Affairs:

- **Eastern Promise Update:** Dr. Mielke provided an update to the Committee regarding data collected 2012-2015. Funding is being sought from other sources since the State legislature

did not extend further to Eastern Promise (EP). A Task Force will report to HECC (Higher Education Coordinating Committee) regarding accelerated learning instruction requirements. Mielke stated that campuses statewide have set their own criteria for instructor qualifications and dual credit.

The cost of Eastern Promise instruction is \$72/credit but students have been paying a reduced rate of \$10/credit; this year the fee will increase to \$31/credit. Praeger-Goller asks about the number of students who earned credits via Eastern Promise and how many have matriculated to EOU. Mielke responds that many of the high school students earning credits have not yet received their diploma and potentially it will be a few more years before the full impact is recognized. He further stated that this service was originally created to encourage high school students to seek a college education but not specifically as a recruitment tool for EOU.

Both Praeger-Goller and Mendoza shared stories regarding students successfully earning EP credits. Prutton shared concerns he has had shared with him that the students are missing the rigor of college. Mielke responds that outcomes are the same as anticipated from university students.

Part of the compact being established includes a fee remission scholarship when students matriculate to EOU. Completion of ten EP credits assures students being Early Admits. Mielke states that getting students to the campus is a critical component to getting them interested in higher education and commented on the recent Overnight Program that Admissions hosted for students from the Portland area. Romano stated that if we are successful with the grant application for TRiO Talent Search (due in December 2015 and awarded late spring 2016), it will dovetail nicely with the academic momentum of accelerated learning.

Martin asks that we focus our marketing towards parents and not be dependent upon the schools relaying program information for us.

Presented as information with no action by the Committee at this time.

- **Teacher Prep/HB3375 – Educator Equity Act:** Dean Mielke explained that this is an attempt to diversify faculty to credit teachers of color. All seven public campuses are asking their boards for support. Mielke then reviewed the impact of programs and the funding amount needed to sustain them:
 - CCRP (Center for Culturally Responsive Practices) = \$24,000
 - OTP (Oregon Teacher Pathway) = \$16,900, and
 - ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) = \$105,000

Details of the funding requests were provided as a handout.

Mendoza recommends proposal be presented to regional school superintendents at an upcoming meeting to gain their support and asks if school classified staff have a pathway

towards certification. Mielke states that clinical partnerships will be sought as part of College of Education accreditation requirements. Concerns were voiced regarding the financial constraints of unfunded mandates from State legislature.

Mielke states that the proposal needs to be approved or denied no later than April 2016.

No action at this time by the Committee.

Student Services:

- **TRiO Update:** VP Romano reported that a job offer was extended and accepted for the role of Director of TRiO Student Support Services. We are awaiting the candidate clearing a background check and degree verification before name is announced but are planning to have incumbent begin working December 1. Office space is being readied in Loso Hall's second floor (rooms 227-230) for three individual office spaces plus the Center (a converted classroom space). Position descriptions are being finalized for other staff roles and searches will launch in the near future.
- **Residence Life "building community:"** Jeremy David Jones, Director of Residence Life, was present to explain recent activities within the residence halls and his vision moving forward. Residency Advocacy is a focus of Resident Aide (RA) training to teach conflict resolution and he is working collaboratively with numerous departments across campus. Due to the successful recruitment efforts of the Admissions staff - the halls are full with 337 residents. This number allows for a few empty beds to use for emergency movement of residents.

Rate comparisons across the state (displayed via PowerPoint slide) were discussed. Jones plans to offer triple-occupancy spaces next year due to the large square footage of the apartments. He is testing the project this year with one group of male students in a triple occupancy room and so far it appears to be a positive experience. He plans 25 additional beds for next year. Lund suggests that the pricing comparisons be part of the marketing materials provided to parents to show what a student gets included in the residence hall costs.

Discussion ensued regarding the new food service provider at EOU, Sodexo, and Chef Kristen Raasch, the General Manager. Different leadership with the same staff has had a very positive impact. Chef Kris is developing a Student Advisory Committee that will meet monthly to address student feedback.

Jones further reported to the Committee regarding professional staff in the residence halls including Area Coordinators, RA's, one Faculty In Residence (FIR) and himself who has chosen to live in Alikut for a year (with his young family) to gain a clear awareness of residence hall life at EOU. Jones was thanked for being present today.

Enrollment and Retention:

- **Enrollment:** Ms. Sanders was present to provide the Committee an update on new admits (frosh and transfers). VP Romano stated that recruiters are still bringing in lots of inquiries and that clear goals have been set for next year. He anticipates reporting in January regarding the numbers reached. VP Romano also described his recent experience as a recruiter at the Denver College Fair. Shoni Walker is currently in Alaska creating connections not only at college fairs but also traveling to native american agencies. Admissions is continuing to look at new markets and building connections locally. Data management has improved with CRM (Customer Relations Management) software in getting the “bugs” in the system worked out. Additionally, we now have an Admission Counselor in Portland which is proving beneficial.

- **Retention:** Discussion ensued regarding retention. VP Romano stated that community building activities are being planned for winter term in collaboration with Academic Affairs. We are also implementing phase two for MFN (Mountaineer Family Network) to connect with families. Other steps being initiated:
 - Academic advisors are meeting with all advisees
 - University Studies (UNI) course instructors are identifying at-risk students which are being followed closely
 - Resident hall activities
 - Year-round campus activities via Center for Student Involvement
 - Clubs are becoming active
 - Identifying what students are seeking
 - Outdoor program is gaining momentum

VP Romano informed the Committee he has received an inquiry asking about establishing a Greek fraternity. The topic will be discussed at President’s Staff next Tuesday.

Pratton asks for exit interview data to see why students are leaving. Martin asks about connection of community to campus, i.e., stores displaying campus colors during events. VP Romano commented that he recently met with the General Manager at the La Grande Safeway about promoting EOU merchandise along with the OSU and UO items and Mr. Royal was receptive to the idea.

FOLLOW-UP: Find out about exit interview data and report at future meeting.

For the Good of the Order

None

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Molly Burke and Angie Adams