



**PUBLIC MEETING OF THE WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (ASAC)**

**Meeting No. 36**

**November 18, 2024 | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

**I. CALL-TO- MEETING AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Mitchell calls the meeting to order at 1pm and asks Secretary Sorce to do a roll call:

The following Trustees are present: Chair Leah Mitchell, Board Vice Chair Kari Nelsestuen, Trustee Juan Larios, and Trustee Schowalter

The following Trustees are excused: Trustee Hunter Hall

Other Staff Present: Board Secretary Evan Sorce, President Jesse Peters, Vice President for Student Affairs Tina Fuchs, Dr. Alicia Wenzel, Paige Jackson, Jen Koshnick, Judy Sylva.

**II. CHAIR’S WELCOME AND ANNOUCEMENTS**

Chair Mitchell welcomed everyone to the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, the first meeting of ASAC for the year.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

a. Approval of the meeting minutes from May 21, 2024

Trustee Nelsestuen moves and Trustee Larios seconds the approval of the May 21, 2024 ASAC meeting minutes. No additional discussion.

Roll Call Vote

Chair Mitchell:	Aye
Trustee Hall	Excused
Trustee Larios	Aye
Trustee Nelsestuen	Aye
Trustee Schowalter	Aye

Motion passes 4-0

**IV. REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**1) Introduction to Athletics | Athletic Director Randi Lydum**

Athletic Director Randi Lydum presented her report to the committee, which can be found on page 4 of the docket for review. Chair Mitchell asked AD



Lydum what percentage of Student Athletes are football players. The answer is a large percentage of them. Later in the presentation, Chair Mitchell asked if the number of athletes had increased over the last few years. AD Lydum answered yes. Over the past 5 years, there has been an increase of 100 athletes and added men's soccer, increased spots in men's and women's track and field, as well as additional football spots. Trustee Larios asked about the budget for maintenance issues, such as the maintenance of facilities. AD Lydum emphasized that maintenance is a huge expense they do their best to keep up with. They fundraise as well to try to raise money for upkeep, and they have finally gotten some allocations in the past from the legislature, but it is a struggle. Trustee Schowalter asked if the students get in for free (paid through Incidental Student Fees), does that mean all the revenue from ticket sales comes from the general public?

Additionally, Trustee Schowalter asked what the plan was to grow attendance from the general public at the sporting events. AD Lydum answered by mentioning that they have gone back and forth on ticket prices and outreach to the larger community. They only charge \$5 for a ticket for all the sports except for football and try to keep it at a price that allows families to attend. That also means that revenue from tickets isn't a significant amount.

## **2) Strategic Plan Presentations and Q&A**

Chair Mitchell transitioned to the next section which is strategic plans for Academic Affairs, Athletics, and Student Affairs, and emphasized that there will be time for questions after each area heads presentation.

- **Academic Affairs**

Provost Coll presented the Strategic Plan for Academic Affairs it can be found on page 14 in the docket. Provost Coll mentioned that the plan focused on three primary areas: excellence in teaching and learning, shared governance, and effectiveness and academic affairs. He highlighted the need to improve student success, particularly regarding graduation rates, and the importance of shared governance with faculty and staff. He also mentioned implementing a policy for administrative drops, which had some initial challenges but was now being refined. Provost Coll also mentioned the hiring of new deans and a director for the honors program and the upcoming hiring of a director for admissions. He emphasized the need for these new hires to embrace the university's strategic plan and direction. Vice-Chair Nelsestuen asked Provost Coll if he could talk more about the relationships between outcomes and indicators. The provost mentioned that his team is working on ensuring that as the strategic plan is developed, there are clear indicators that can be measured and analyzed which will help keep Academic Affairs on track and transparent on the implementation of the strategic plan. Trustee Schowalter asked what Academic Affairs is doing to ensure shared

governance involvement within shared governance. Provost Coll used this as an example, working with the Faculty Senate to develop clear policies and procedures for creating new degrees. Trustee Larios asked how student voices are represented in determining the indicators. Provost Coll said that his team intentionally sought out student feedback and involvement in the development of this plan and that it would be critical to inform the development of the strategic plan at the college level.

- Athletics

Athletic Director Lydum presented Athletics' strategic plan, which can be found on page 22 of the docket for review. Chair Mitchell asked AD Lydum what the difference is between the graduation rate of the general student population and student-athletes. AD Lydum answered that student-athletes graduate at a 16% higher rate than our general population, and that rate is even higher when you include our non-scholarship student-athletes.

- Student Affairs

Vice President of Student Affairs Tina Fuchs presented the Student Affairs Strategic Plan, which can be found on page 28 of the docket for review. VP Fuchs emphasized the importance of partnerships across campus to enhance student success. She highlighted the division's core values, including a sense of belonging, support for students in all phases of their development, and the commitment to making decisions based on assessment and data. VP Fuchs also outlined the division's strategic goals, which include holistic student development, student engagement, transformational diversity, and organizational investment. She stressed the importance of retaining talent and optimizing financial and human resources. VP Fuchs concluded by stating that the division's work aligns with the university's strategic goals and that a rubric is being developed to evaluate the work done. Annually, the Student Affairs team will review the plan and adjust as needed. Vice Chair Nelsestuen asked about the absence of admissions and enrollment in the strategic plan. Dr. Coll explained that admissions has moved under academic affairs. Dr. Coll shared updates on the enrollment management strategic plan and discussed a couple of updates, including automatic enrollment for the Central School district as a pilot program. So far, the program looks like it will be successful, and if it is, there is a potential to add direct enrollment to our top feeder schools in Oregon. Additionally, WOU has implemented the common app and created an enrollment fee of \$50, which, for universities that have one, is the best indicator of whether a student is attending to enroll at the university.

## V. ADJOURNMENT



Chair Mitchell Adjourns the meeting at 2:31pm.