

Resolution of the Western Oregon University Faculty Senate

Affirmation of the Responsibilities of Faculty Regarding Curriculum

Whereas the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities in the report titled "Standards for Accreditation" (Section 2.C.5) states "Faculty, through well-defined structures and processes with clearly defined authority and responsibilities, exercise a major role in the design, approval, implementation, and revision of the curriculum, and have an active role in the selection of new faculty. Faculty with teaching responsibilities take collective responsibility fostering and assessing student achievement of clearly identified learning outcomes."

Whereas, in 2007, it is stated in ORS 352.010 in the section titled *Status of Faculty*, "The president and professors constitute the faculty of each of the state institutions of higher education and as such have the immediate government and discipline of it and the students therein...The faculty may, subject to the supervision of the [now defunct] State Board of Higher Education under ORS 351.070 (Board general powers as to higher education and institutions), prescribe the course of study to be pursued in the institution and the textbooks to be used."

Whereas the AAUP has stated in Section 5 of its *Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities*, "The faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process...The faculty sets the requirements for the degrees offered in course, determines when the requirements have been met, and authorizes the president and board to grant the degrees thus achieved."

1. Be it resolved that the Western Oregon University Faculty Senate affirms its dedication "...to fostering and sustaining the best, most rewarding pathways to opportunity and success for all Oregonians through an accessible, affordable and coordinated network for educational achievement beyond a high school diploma," as stated in the HECC's Vision Statement from its Strategic Plan (2016-2020).
2. Be it resolved that the Western Oregon University Faculty Senate affirms its commitment to working with our university administrations, with community colleges, with the HECC, and with the state legislature to achieve the fundamental goal of HB2998 to align transfer credits with degree pathways that will enable students to effectively transfer from community colleges into university programs of their choice.
3. Be it resolved that the Western Oregon University Faculty Senate affirms the right, the responsibility, and the obligation of the faculty to design, approve, and implement its institutional curriculum.