

## **Faculty Senate Report**

**From Interim Provost Winningham**

**11/13/18**

### ***Moodle Support***

With the departure of Dr. Weiwei Zhang and the announcement regarding the Dean of Library and Academic Technology, we are focusing on better integration of Moodle support and Digital Media Services. Ben Hayes will be continuing as our Moodle system administrator and maintaining functional capacity of Moodle. Ben and the graduate assistants will continue to ensure proper Moodle function and support faculty in building their functional capacity in the system. But many faculty would like more help with online and hybrid instructional design and digital media assistance. Moodle support will be directing those requests to Scott Carter and the Digital Media Center. University Computing Solutions will, of course, continue to provide technical support of the learning management system and Interim Associate Provost Erin Baumgartner will coordinate with the Registrar's Office, ODS and the University Counsel to ensure that our online learning environment remains a safe and supportive learning space. During this time, the University Technology Advisory Committee will be examining the capacity of our learning management system and their discussions will be informed by the reporting from the online learning professional learning community (PLC) chaired by Dr. Amy Harwell. This PLC will focus on peer-review of course design to determine areas of need in our support of online learning.

### ***Program Assessment***

As of the October 31 deadline for reporting of program assessment in 2017-18, 64% of programs had reports filed. Dr. Baumgartner is reaching out to programs that have not yet filed to determine what assistance they require to complete their reporting for this year. Programs will be invited to take part in a round table sharing of assessment reports in Winter term to facilitate sharing of results and strategies for future planning. By June of this year, our goal is to ensure that all academic programs have filed their assessment plans for the year 2019-20 in TK20 and by October of next year have filed their assessment plans for 2018-19 in TK20. There will be a series of trainings on the use of TK20 for assessment reporting in the Winter and Spring so that everyone will have the opportunity to make sure their program is properly represented in TK20 be prepared for plan entry.

## ***Salem Campus Location***

Aligned with our mission and strategic plan, WOU is preparing to offer courses and, ultimately, academic programs in Salem.

In spring 2018, we began to explore use of the Chemeketa Center for Business & Industry (CCBI) as a temporary space to begin our work in Salem. By 2022, we expect to establish a permanent WOU in Salem site, so we sought a bridge between our start-up and on-going operations.

The CCBI site has much to recommend it, especially its proximity to state government offices and its large pool of government workers. Our preliminary conversations with Chemeketa Community College administration indicated that this space was a viable option for us. In May 2018, we hosted an open house where we presented information on our planning for Salem, including the site possibility.

As resolution on the CCBI space was drawn out this summer, we monitored alternatives including commercial sites in downtown Salem. In late summer we did more research on the Professional Learning Center (PLC) at the Willamette Education Service District (WESD), familiar to faculty who lead Willamette Promise teacher groups. Located at 2611 Pringle, the WESD PLC is a seven-minute drive from the State Capitol and on two bus routes. It provides four smart and flexible classrooms that seat up to 50 students each. The Clearwater Café space is available as gathering, studying and meeting space. Parking is abundant, well-lit and convenient.

In August, we learned that the first floor of the CCBI, the most appropriate and desirable area of the CCBI, is managed by Northwest Innovations, the for-profit arm of Chemeketa Community College and that it was not available to us in 2018-19. Two classrooms, the boardroom and a small office on the second floor were offered instead.

In October, because we did not have a signed lease agreement with CCBI, we queried the WESD as to whether they would be open to hosting WOU in Salem, evenings and weekends, as we built our programs in Salem. The leadership at the WESD signaled interest in leasing their space to us, and tentatively reserved two classrooms for us for the Winter and Spring 2019 Salem courses.

A few days later, we learned that Northwest Innovations is not, at this time, able to make commitments about the use of the first-floor space for 2019-20 and beyond. At that time, we returned to the WESD leadership and formally requested use of their PLC space for Winter and Spring 2019, and 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years. This is a significant ask of that agency, to populate their space up to four nights a week (and Saturday) for five hours at a time. They signaled their interest in this arrangement, and provided a cost

estimate this week. At this time, we have an agreement in principle regarding usage and rental fees, and expect a signed agreement next week. We can expect a joint press release upon signing of the formal agreement. In the meantime, the WESD leadership plans to update its board about these developments at their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 6.

Though we regret the sustained lack of clarity about the site over the past few months, we are pleased with the ultimate resolution of this situation. Although the CCBI space was not available to us after all, its possibilities provided the impetus for conversations on campus that have moved our aspirations to serve working adults in Salem towards exciting, concrete plans. The partnership with the WESD allows us to plant our flag in Salem at a site that is convenient, well-managed and modern, and where we have an opportunity to focus on WOU's distinctive attributes and connect directly to high school students throughout the region.

As we move forward, there will be additional opportunities for faculty and staff to learn more about our Salem site. We will be having a town hall to discuss our campus in Salem on **Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00pm**. We are also planning to have an open house at the WESD Professional Learning Center.

Faculty have asked about support services available, when classes are being held in Salem. Whenever classes are in session, we will have a staff member who will be familiar with classroom technology and have the ability to advise students on matters related to interfacing with the university. The staff member can also serve as an advocate for the student, helping them make contact with offices on campus (e.g., Financial Aid, Registrar, Student Success and Advising).

### **Distance to the Capital**

It only takes approximately seven minutes to get from the Capital Mall area in Salem to the WESD Professional Learning Center, where students will have access to ample and free parking. The location is also on two bus lines. Given the density of traffic in and around the CCBI, the WESD location might be equally or more convenient for students.

### **Internal Website:**

<http://www.wou.edu/provost/wou-in-salem/>

### **Crime Statistics for the both locations that were considered**

Neighborhood surrounding WESD (Morningside Neighborhood Association).

Violent Crimes - 6

Property Crimes - 28

Quality of Life (aka Disorderly Conduct) - 3

Total: 37

As a comparison, of the neighborhood surrounding CCBI (Central Area  
Neighborhood Association):

Violent Crimes - 13

Property Crimes - 136

Quality of Life - 26

Total: 175