

Faculty Senate Minutes

January 14, 2020

Willamette Room, WUC

Primarily paperless, wou.edu/facultysenate

3:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Better Know a Colleague (informal gathering, optional)

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Business Meeting

- 1. Call to order: 3:30 p.m.**
- 2. Call of the roll (by circulation of sign-in sheet)**
- 3. Corrections to and approval of minutes from previous meeting**

3.1. December 10th Meeting

- Approved as posted

4. Institutional Reports

4.1. Faculty Senate President's Report (Kristin Latham-Scott)

- Report available on Faculty Senate website.
- Highlights: Microphones now available; climate survey results to be posted to Portal; calls still open for one faculty position each on the University Council and University Budget Advisory Committee

4.2. University President's Report (Rex Fuller)

- Upcoming legislative session: two objectives:
 - This year the legislature deferred acting on capital for universities at the request of Governor Brown. We will review our capital projects. We have two projects in the HECC ranking's top 8 (replacement for old ed building; remodel for APSC to support science programs).
 - Fix ORS 352, which currently limits the university to Master's degrees, to allow regional universities to offer Professional Doctorates.
- **Question:** Was the order you said them in the order of rank (importance)?
 - Health Sciences was our top ranked item in APSC.
- **Question:** Can you clarify that the legislative concept is to just allow professional doctorates?
 - Yes. The language does not include EdD degrees.
- **Question:** What does a professional doctorate entail?
 - Things like the DPT program. Often differentiated by a research requirement that goes with a PhD program. They often also lead to licensure. Some disciplines (like business) also offer professional doctorates that differ from PhDs.
 - **Comment from Rob Winningham:** NWCCU uses the same language as the federal government to define professional doctorates:

4.3. Office of Academic Affairs' Report (Rob Winningham)

- Report available on Faculty Senate Website.
- Highlights: OER Award Program update; University Council Academic Advising Taskforce; registration nudge data
- **Comment:** Graduate programs sent out registration nudges as well, and was able to send my own nudges to my own students who hadn't enrolled yet.
- **Question:** Do you have an updated sense of enrollment compared to last term?
 - We are still down about 4% in headcount and 6% in FTE overall from last year. International students show the biggest decline. Graduate enrollment is up, perhaps due to our Salem activity. We are making progress towards being a hispanic-serving institute

(currently 19% identifying students, which should go up in spring term with Willamette Promise students accounted for).

- **Question:** Do our numbers compare to other public schools?
 - It depends on the school, but generally the other regional schools have lower numbers as well. Oregon has small classes of graduating high school students, and fewer of them go to college immediately than in some other states.

4.4. IFS Report (Thaddeus Shannon, Emily Plec)

- No report.

4.5. Gen Ed Report (Camila Gabaldon)

- If you have proposals for the Gen Ed then do it asap because the deadline is today ;)

5. Consideration of Old Business

No old business.

6. Consideration of New Business

No new business.

7. Discussion items

No discussion items.

8. Informational Presentations and Committee Reports

8.1. New “Today at WOU” website (Marion Barnes)

- “Today at WOU” has a new website at <https://today.wou.edu>
- Marketing and Communication will send an email to the faculty email list for faculty expertise for media contact, as well as media training.
- The Marketing and Communication office has moved to Todd Hall’s first floor.

- **Question:** Is this where prospective students could potentially see events at WOU? Or is this for current students?
 - It's more for current students and community members. The main page for prospective students does include a link to it, though. Faculty members can be featured on the website through MarCom's contact site. (Stories do need to include a visual element such as a photograph.)

8.2. University Council Academic Advising Taskforce (Niki Weight)

- PowerPoint available at the Faculty Senate website.
- **Question:** It sounds like the task force is going to collect information where our current strengths and weaknesses are in advising. Do you know of any knowledge of our current advising pitfalls?
 - Some of that is in the NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement) data, available on the Institutional Research website (<https://wou.edu/institutionalresearch/>). We want this to be a university-wide task force because I'm relying on the experiences of the individual representatives to bring forward challenges or strengths from their areas.
- **Question:** Are there any incentives being offered?
 - **Comment from Rob Winningham:** Not beyond what is already available to tenure track faculty for institutional service.

8.3. Regional Resources Center on Deafness updates (Chad Ludwig)

- PowerPoint available on the Faculty Senate website.
- **Comment:** It seems like you have appropriately researched about this rebranding and we all seem to be in favor of this rebranding.

Meeting adjourned: 4:36 pm

5 – 5:15 p.m.

Better Know a Colleague (informal gathering continued, optional)