

Provost Winningham's Faculty Senate Report April , 2021

1. Open Educational Resources (OER) Development Opportunities.

Oregon Virtual Statewide OER Symposium (May 14, 2021)

The call for proposals for the Oregon Virtual Statewide OER Symposium 2021 has been extended to March

29: <https://openoregon.org/events/event/symposium-2021/>. Please save the symposium date, May 14, and note that part-time faculty and staff attending from Oregon's public community colleges and universities are eligible for stipends for attendance and supplemental childcare.

Cascadia Open Education Summit (April 27-29)

Free registration is open for the Cascadia Open Education Summit, April 27-29: <https://openoregon.org/events/event/2021-cascadia/>. Part-time faculty and staff attending from Oregon's public community colleges and universities are eligible for stipends for attendance and supplemental childcare.

Open Ed Week Archived Webinars

Captioned webinars from Open Ed Week and beyond are now available on the Open Oregon Educational Resources website: <https://openoregon.org/tag/archived-webinar/>

For more information, contact Sue Kunda at kundas@wou.edu; 8-8893.

2. Accelerated Undergraduate to Master's Pathway. From:
<https://today.wou.edu/2021/04/07/wou-introduces-the-accelerated-undergraduate-to-masters-pathway/>

Beginning fall 2021, WOU is opening up a new avenue of opportunity to prospective master's degree students. The Accelerated Undergraduate to Master's Pathway (AUMP) allows current WOU seniors to complete both undergraduate and graduate credits at once, with a long-term potential of receiving their master's degree early. Seniors can take up to 16 credits that will be applied to both their bachelor's and participating master's program, saving both time and tuition money.

This pathway is specifically for students planning to pursue their master's at WOU directly after graduating. They can conveniently apply coursework to both programs. To qualify for this opportunity, students must have a 3.2 GPA or higher and be in senior standing as fully admitted undergraduates at WOU. Their intended graduate program must be participating in the AUMP, and they need to meet any additional requirements set by their specific program.

According to Dr. David Foster, WOU professor in the Psychological Sciences Department, there are three accelerated pathways into the Organizational Leadership Master's Program, all of which he will coordinate: Liberal Studies, Information Systems, and the Organizational Leadership minor. Foster said, "I think I am most excited, however, by the accelerated pathway from the Criminal Justice major to the Criminal Justice Master's Program. The Criminal Justice faculty have done a fantastic job building their undergraduate and graduate programs, and I hope this new pathway provides CJ students greater accessibility and affordability to earning a master's degree."

Students can take a maximum of 16 credits while they're still undergraduates. Additionally, these classes must be passed with a B (3.0) or higher, and pass/fail or satisfactory/no credit courses do not qualify. These selected courses are in the 500- to 600-level range.

Dr. Hillary Fouts, the dean of Graduate Studies and Research, expresses her enthusiasm for this upcoming program and the advantages participating WOU students will experience: "I'm very excited about the new AUMP pathway opportunity as it will provide WOU undergraduate students the opportunity to pursue a master's degree in a fast and cost effective way. [...] With careful planning, this means that completing a master's degree will only take one year for most students in an AUMP pathway. This is a tremendous opportunity for undergraduate students who are considering or interested in pursuing a master's degree, and I hope many will take advantage of it."

For further information on this opportunity and how to apply, please visit the [AUMP section](#) of the WOU site.

3. Willamette Promise got its start in 2014 with a Regional Promise Replication Grant from the Oregon Department of Education. Its goals are to expand opportunities to earn accelerated credit, enhance career-readiness and a college-going culture in Oregon's schools and communities, and strengthen coordination and collaboration across educational sectors. Most of all, we seek to build each student's confidence in his or her ability to succeed in college by awarding college credit when a student demonstrates college-level learning as defined by college faculty. This is particularly important for students who have not previously imagined succeeding in college. We now offer 20 courses throughout the state.

- Last year, WOU's faculty worked with Willamette Promise staff and our partner school districts to develop pathways for remote-learning students to demonstrate the college-level learning necessary to earn WOU credits. Then, over the summer, Willamette Promise faculty in Biology, Chemistry, Communication Studies, Geography, Mathematics, Psychology and Writing strengthened support for online instruction and assessment in our partner schools. This adaptive work has served our schools well this year and will be of great value moving forward.
- Almost half of our Willamette Promise credits are awarded in Spanish, and the exam is a path for students to earn Oregon's Seal of Biliteracy on their high school diploma. Over the summer, WOU's Spanish faculty redesigned the Spanish Assessment tool so that it can be securely administered in remote locations. The redesign includes 14 distinct versions of the 45-minute exam, vetted and reviewed by professional linguists. Patricia Gimenez-Eguibar and Claudia Costagliola drew on the expertise and voices of 26 native Spanish speakers from 14 countries. Our partners at the Willamette Education Service district provided extraordinary technical, pedagogical, student service and project management support to this effort.
- The Higher Education Coordinating Commission found a route to maintaining the current reimbursement level (\$55 per credit) for accelerated learning credits earned even as they sought other means to simplify the state's funding formula for public universities. David McDonald led the lobbying effort; he was supported by testimony from high school administrators and strong letters of support from Regional Promise Advisory Boards. This level of support from the state is what allows us to work so closely with the high school teachers with whom we partner.