

The University Council is responsible for determining the degree to which the university is meeting its mission and is engaged in comprehensive, ongoing, systematic assessment of its work that leads to mission fulfillment and improvement.

MINUTES

1. Welcome (President Peters)

President Peters opened with a brief introduction, mentioning the email he sent out yesterday regarding budget cut planning, as well as the situation happening with SOU. He touched on how we are making strides to not end up in a similar position.

2. Peer Comparator Update Presentations (Judy Sylva and Jessica Murfin)

Institutional Performance & Strategic Benchmarking Presentation:

- For the 2022-2024 comparators, WOU is right in the middle for graduation rate.
 - When overall data disaggregated, WOU is on track with Pell-recipient graduation rates, and WOU leads in Hispanic student graduation rates.
- There was discussion around ways to support all students to graduate in 4 years, as well as which data sets may be helpful to utilize (i.e. working students' graduation rate, class times that could best line up with student employment, more flexible on-campus employment options, etc.)

NWCCU Peer Comparator Presentation:

- Committee on campus made up of the following stakeholders: Joy Brown, Malissa Larson, Melanie Landon-Hays, Tom Litterer, Camarie Moreno, Jessica Murfin, and Adeya Powell.
 - Work group looked at comparators from 2021 and recommends considerations for next cycle.
 - Determined 14 comparators by looking at several different variables and filters, listed on slides.
 - University Council will provide feedback on additional considerations for comparators. Decision will be made in Spring

Mission Statement: *Western Oregon University provides a personalized learning community where individuals experience a deep sense of belonging and empowerment.*

3. FY27 Budget Process and Tools (*Camarie Moreno*)

Camarie talked about the various revenue types that are part of the budget planning process, and mentioned the PUSF funding level typically already being known during odd-numbered years. For expenses, personnel costs are reviewed by Budget Authorities/HR, and S&S is based on the Budget Commitments/Obligations worksheet by Budget Authorities. This S&S process is new for E&G areas, as previously, budgets were based on previous year allocations. This new model will provide a clearer picture with what is being spent, where it's going, and what true needs are. This will also create a more accurate deficit projection. Adjustments to increase S&S will filter through a Senior Leadership member, and will be taken to the President for the ultimate decision. Decreases will also be discussed at the Senior Leadership level, led by the President. Auxiliary processes remain mostly unchanged, with some simplifications of internal charges.

4. Advisory Committee Updates

- **University Budget Advisory Committee (UBAC)** (*Zach Hammerle*)

Highlighted the upcoming UBAC events next week. Full update linked in the Board of Trustees Finance & Administration subcommittee docket.

- **University Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Committee (UDIAC)** (*Dominique Vargas*)

No updates.

- **University Technology Advisory Committee (UTAC)** (*Chelle Batchelor*)

Full update linked in the Board of Trustees Finance & Administration subcommittee docket. RFQ in process for building data governance structure. Goal of having a standardized software procurement model in place, partnering with UCS.

5. Announcements

Mission Statement: *Western Oregon University provides a personalized learning community where individuals experience a deep sense of belonging and empowerment.*