



## OUS Provosts' Council

### Meeting Action Notes

November 6, 2008

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Members: Sabah Randhawa, OSU, Co-Chair  
Susan Weeks, OUS, Co-Chair  
Jim Bean, UO  
Brad Burda, OIT  
Lesley Hallick, OHSU  
Michael Jaeger, EOU  
Jim Klein, SOU  
Roy Koch, PSU  
Kent Neely, WOU

IFS: Mina Carson, OSU

Staff: Helen Stampe, OUS

Guests: Jim Francesconi, OSBHE  
Joe Holliday, OUS  
Bob Turner, OUS  
Karen Sprague, OUS  
Tom North, OUS  
Ruth Keele, OUS

David Yaden, OSBHE  
Susan Bragdon, OUS  
Gail Achterman, OSU  
Bob Simonton, OUS  
Agnes Hoffman, PSU  
Elisabeth Zinser, OUS

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#### 1. Enrollment Management Leaders on OUS Campuses

Joe Holliday discussed the concept of getting campus enrollment management leaders to work together to align enrollment management strategies that would help OUS and its campuses achieve enrollment, retention, and transfer goals. Discussion followed. Joe is to e-mail the Provosts' Council a statement of the group's charge and membership, including examples of activities they would engage in, and the provosts will respond accordingly. The name of the committee will be the OUS Interinstitutional Council of Enrollment Managers (ICEM).

#### 2. Transfer Evaluations and Nonaccredited Universities

Agnes Hoffman reported on behalf of the Interinstitutional Committee on Admissions and Recruitment (ICAR) on how transfer evaluations should deal with transcripts from schools such as the University of Phoenix, which includes classes from nonaccredited schools or employee training programs as well as their own classes. Agnes suggested that a System level conversation be held with the University of Phoenix. Discussion followed. It was decided that Agnes would provide examples of the transcripts in question to the co-chairs as the next step in deciding how to address this issue.

*Update: At the request of the co-chairs, Assistant Vice Chancellor Joe Holliday contacted Academic Affairs at the University of Phoenix (UOP) and submitted two questions to Dr. Adam Honea, UOP Provost. The first was about how to clarify which credits on student transcripts were from actual UOP or AXIA (i.e., accredited) coursework and which were from transfer evaluation of CLEP, on-job training, or non-accredited college coursework. The second involved the awarding and transcribing of upper-division credit at AXIA, which is a two-year school. Joe is awaiting a reply from Dr. Honea and will respond to the Council accordingly.*

### **3. Follow-up on PK-12 Issues**

**Senate Bill 342 Report:** Bob Turner reported that this report was approved by the Joint Boards' Unified Education Enterprise (UEE) Committee on October 1, 2008. It will be considered for approval by the Joint Boards of Education at its November meeting.

*Update: The Joint Boards approved the SB 342 report during its meeting on November 7, 2008. The report was also presented to and approved by the Oregon Legislature's Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means on November 20, 2008.*

**New High School Diploma:** Bob Turner discussed the proposed timeline for adoption and implementation of policy. It is to be considered for approval by the Provosts' Council in winter 2009, after ICAR adoption of established "cut" scores. After the Provosts' Council approves it, it will go forward to the Board for approval and implementation.

*Update: The Governor indicated in one of his economy-related speeches last week that he was going to suggest to the State Board of Education that they postpone implementation of the new high school diploma requirements by a year because of lack of resources for some school districts to start implementing the new requirements. State Board Chairman Duncan Wyse remarked that "we have to keep this moving at the fastest speed we can with the resources available. We want to encourage schools to do everything they can to keep kids on this trajectory."*

*Comment from Bob Turner: At this time, there appears to be no reason for OUS to adjust its proposed timeline, particularly when the State Board of Education may well decide to delay implementation only for part of the new diploma requirements. By maintaining the proposed timeline, OUS will be in a position to adapt to any actions of the State Board of Education; delay in the OUS timeline may place the OUS policy a year behind new diploma requirement modifications adopted by the State Board of Education.*

**Dual Credit Study:** Karen Sprague led a discussion on the study, which included three documents describing the process for establishing statewide criteria for dual credit courses: Recommendations for Improving and Expanding Dual Credit Programs; Proposed Standards for Dual Credit/"College Now" Programs; and Proposed Timeline for Implementation of Standards for Oregon Dual Credit/"College Now" programs. The Provosts' Council was supportive of the study and proposed plans for periodic assessment. It was noted that these documents will be submitted to the Joint Boards of Education for approval at their January 2009 meeting.

#### **4. Update on Sustainability**

Board members Jim Francesconi and David Yaden led a discussion of a coordinated approach to sustainability activities and programs within the Oregon University System. A formal discussion on this topic is planned at the November 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to learn more about what is happening across the System on education, research, facilities, and outreach related to sustainability; what needs to be done to make the System an international leader in sustainability; and decide upon next steps. It was noted that at the April 2008 *OUS Sustainability Summit*, a conclusion was reached that the System could work together to “capitalize on Oregon’s strengths in sustainability and position it to be a world leader in education, research, facilities management, and community outreach.” David indicated that he felt the role of the Board was to provide strategic direction, encourage the collaboration of campuses, and connect it to other priorities in the state. Roy Koch reported that he set up an OUS sustainability committee to discuss focus and a plan to connect OUS campuses.

*Update: On November 7<sup>th</sup>, the Board established a Sustainability Initiatives Committee, to be chaired by David Yaden. The committee’s charge is to “lead a collaborative effort that sets the System and its institutions on a course to become a recognized international leader in sustainability.”*

#### **5. Learning Outcomes and Assessment**

Elisabeth Zinser reported on the learning outcomes and assessment phases of work and progress to date. She provided a handout that lists the learning outcomes and assessment task group members, their project goals and purpose, task group charge with deliverables and elements, methodologies, faculty involvement, other partners and stakeholders, accreditation, accountability, framework, longer-term plan with milestones, contribution to knowledge development, and essential support. She also provided a flow chart on the work in progress to date. Elisabeth shared a tentative agenda on a meeting scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup> that will involve the task group members, provosts (or designees), OUS staff, and AAC&U President Carol Schneider regarding LEAP in the states – working together for the public good. Discussion followed.

#### **6. Failed and Diminished Searches**

Tom North led a discussion on the failed and diminished searches data collection and reporting procedures. He asked the Council for input on developing a method for routinely capturing information on the failed/diminished searches and provided a list of questions to address; e.g., what data to collect, how and when to collect it, the populations from whom to collect it, what the data collection instrument itself should look like, etc. There was also discussion on the need to protect the identity of individual faculty members and how much detail should be written in the “comment” section explaining the respective failed/diminished search. It was decided that Tom will work with the OUS Interinstitutional Planning and Research Council (IPRC) and provide a recommendation to the provosts on how to proceed.

#### **7. PSU – External Review on the M.F.A. in Creative Writing**

Action: It was approved to accept the external review report and move the Creative Writing program forward for Board approval at the January 2009 meeting. Material for Board docket and notification to the Office of Degree Authorization will need to be submitted.

## **8. Next Meeting**

It was announced that the December Board Retreat had been cancelled and was being moved to January 2009. A question was raised on whether there was a need for a Provosts' Council meeting in December. It was determined that the co-chairs will follow up with the provosts at the Board meeting and decide later on whether there will be a meeting.

*Update: There will not be a December 4<sup>th</sup> Provosts' Council meeting. Due to the Board Retreat scheduled for January 8-9, 2009, the next meeting of the Provosts' Council will be January 15<sup>th</sup> at Portland State University.*