

OUS Provosts' Council Meeting

August 5, 2004

Minutes

The OUS Provosts' Council met from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 103 in the Student Services Building at Portland Community College-Cascade Campus on August 5, 2004. Dr. Algie Gatewood, President, welcomed us to the campus.

Attendees: Lorraine Davis, Chair, UO; Lesley Hallick and Sam Connell, OHSU; John Miller, EOU; John Moseley, UO; Earl Potter, SOU; Sabah Randhawa, OSU; Michael Reardon, PSU; Jem Spectar, WOU; Dave Woodall, OIT; Craig Wollner, IFS; John Minahan (by phone), Helen Stampe, Susan Weeks, and Denise Yunker, OUS.

1. Program Proposals

OHSU – Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Nursing

- Lesley Hallick reported that this is a 30 credit hour post baccalaureate certificate that builds on the knowledge base of baccalaureate-prepared international nurses, expanding knowledge and critical analysis competencies in cross-cultural issues designed to immerse them in English, and to transition them to be prepared to start graduate nursing training. Given the demand and interest of the program, OHSU may begin a cohort in January and another next fall.
- Consensus was that it is OK to proceed for ODA notification and forward to the September Board consent agenda for approval.

OSU – External Review: Master of Arts in Contemporary Hispanic Studies

- Sabah Randhawa reported that the external review committee looked at the admissions process, assessment of programs, and placement, internships, and funding for the program. Question was raised on how OSU was responding to admissions process as the review committee had explicit recommendations on writing examples, Spanish tasks, etc. Sabah indicated that the department is going to look at designing the language instrument that would address some of the issues that were raised in the external review. This includes creating an admission package that allows applicants to submit writing samples in both English and Spanish that will provide a statement of purpose, designing the language testing instrument specific to Heritage Learners of Spanish that can be used when needed for screening applicants, and other instruments.
- Consensus was that it was OK to forward the program to the September Board consent agenda for approval.

OSU – External Review: Ph.D./M.S. in Water Resources Engineering; Ph.D./M.S. in Water Resources Science; and M.S. in Water Resources Policy and Management

- Sabah reported that the external review committee enthusiastically endorsed the Water Resources program proposal and its five graduate degrees, and concludes that this program will make a unique contribution to the university, the state of Oregon,

and the nation. Question was asked on whether the library got additional funding. Sabah said they did two levels of increments to the library: library and centers/institutes – almost a 10% increase in the library budget. In addition to that, they allocated \$15,000 for the three years separate from the general increase in agency funding for the library.

- Consensus was that it was OK to forward the program to the September Board consent agenda for approval.

EOU – Master of Business Administration

- John Miller reported that the questions raised in earlier meetings had been answered, including some of Lorraine’s follow-up questions sent to Council members on August 3. There was a lengthy discussion covering topics on student and faculty ratio, campus-based program versus distance education delivery, and periodic review considerations. It was noted that Table 12 “Fall 2003 Teaching Loads for Faculty Teaching Business Courses” was not in materials sent and it was handed out.

- Further discussion was also made on a draft statement Lorraine shared with the Council asking for their comments on whether it should go in the Board program write-up. The orally presented abridged statement follows:

The Provosts’ Council of OUS forwards to the State Board the proposal to establish an MBA program at Eastern Oregon University with some qualifications. The role of the Provosts’ Council is to assure the academic integrity of its members programs for the benefit of the OUS system. At the same time we want to respect the initiative of individual OUS institutions, their particular missions, and their entrepreneurial and creative energies. With an appreciation of the felt need in eastern Oregon for this kind of a program and for the desire on the part of EOU to be responsive and innovative in that context, we nonetheless have some concerns about the prospects long-term for developing a full-scale MBA program. The concerns were around whether there are adequate resources for the effort – faculty, infrastructure, and academic depth. It is commendable that EOU wishes to develop this MBA, and it is congruent with its ambitions and promises as a regional institution. At the same time, the proposal remains one that requires additional oversight and continuing reporting and review.

- Agreement was made that the statement should be included in the meeting notes, but not in the Board recommendation. The Council also agreed that the program would be reviewed in three years and any off-site distance education degree offering would have to come back to them for reconsideration.
- Consensus was that it was OK to forward the program to the September Board consent agenda for approval, and that it would include the word “regional” MBA program in the Board recommendation.

Other Programs

- Jem Spectar indicated that he just received the proposal for Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre and will be sending it forward soon.
- Dave Woodall announced that he will be sending a proposal for B.S. in Renewable Energy Systems for review; if possible, he would like it on the September Council agenda.

2. Graduate, Academic and Research Policy Officer Position

- Discussion was made around the title of the GARP position and type of role the person will be playing in OUS and with the Provosts' Council and Graduate Program Council. It was mentioned that the kind of person that would be perfect for this position would be a retired or near-retired graduate dean as they have lots of experience in coordination, liaison, and policy issues. Suggestions were made to change the title from the proposed vice chancellor for graduate, academic and research policy to something more like associate or assistant vice chancellor, or coordinator liaison, or system academic officer. Upon further deliberations, it was agreed that the position title would be recommended to be Senior Policy Officer for Graduate, Academic and Research Affairs.
- Several editing changes were made to the position description to clarify that this person would be more focused on the Graduate Program Council and more of an ex-officio member and consultant to the Provosts' Council.
- Regarding the search committee, Lorraine indicated that she had mentioned to George Pernsteiner that a board member probably needs to chair the committee and had suggested Kirby Dyess if she would be willing to do it. It was suggested that whoever was going to chair the Graduate Program Council should also be the chair of the search committee. Recommended membership would include two provosts – one each from a large and small university. John Minahan would serve as liaison and Helen Stampe would staff the committee.

3. Five-Year Academic Calendar

- Lorraine led the discussion on the possibility of moving the starting date of classes in 2009-10 to a week earlier due to the date occurring on Yom Kippur; classes would begin on September 21. This would result in the tenth week of the term occurring during Thanksgiving, which means that students will be returning from Thanksgiving and immediately begin finals. It might be possible to hold classes on Monday and Tuesday and begin finals on Wednesday, and the last day of finals would be on Tuesday, December 8; however, adding four additional days to the residence hall contract might create some problems.
- It was suggested that classes would begin on September 21 and will notify campus registrars for any concerns they may have. It was also noted that all future changes and/or approvals to the academic calendar will be made by the Provosts' Council.

4. Policy Package Requests

Lorraine handed out the latest draft of the policy package requests for Council's review, along with the Data Systems package (#2) that Dave McDonald had already submitted to the OUS Budget Office. Lengthy discussion was held in all areas and assignments for finalizing the draft was determined.

1. ***Retention and Graduate Rates*** will be reviewed by John Moseley
2. ***Data Systems*** will be reviewed by Curt Pederson and others
- 3a. ***Dual Enrollment Framework*** will be reviewed by Sabah Randhawa
- 3b. ***General Education Transferable Common Core (Framework)*** will be reviewed by Dave Woodall, along with input from IFS and JBAC
4. ***Transferable Core for Majors*** will be held over for the next biennium but keep text in as a placeholder

5. ***On-Line Courses*** will be reviewed by John Miller with a leading paragraph from John Moseley
6. ***High School Credit-Rigor College Credit*** will be reviewed by Jem Spectar
7. ***Course Availability*** will remain as is with some editing by John Moseley

It was recommended that we invite both Gretchen Schuette and Dave McDonald to the September Council meeting to discuss these policy packages.

5. Other Items

- **Meeting Schedule**: Regarding the September 15 meeting on the Accelerated High School Learning Summit, we need to get two provosts and two presidents to represent the seven OUS universities as soon as possible. Provosts are to check with their presidents to see if they are attending and get names to Helen as soon as they can.
- **Website**: A draft was shared and it was agreed to get the website up and running. As soon as it is active, information/materials will be posted as they become available.

6. Optional Retirement Plan

Denise Yunker submitted a handout on the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) and reported on what was going to be reintroduced for reconsideration before and during the legislative session. It included components of the proposed legislative concept and rationale for decoupling ORP and PERS.

7. Performance Measures

Susan Weeks distributed handouts of the following: work calendar for OUS Performance Measurement Activities for 2004-05; table on Performance Measure Data Summary; and a paper on possible new affordability indicators (*note: provosts' response to this paper is attached*). She indicated that in late August they will provide provosts a revised draft of the DAS Data Summary with suggested targets. Provosts will be asked to review and comment on the targets by mid-September so that they can submit the DAS report to meet the September 30 deadline. Also during September, provosts will be asked to review the draft OUS Performance Indicator report (to be sent out in early September), in anticipation of its presentation to the Board in October. Finally, provosts will need to start developing the presidents' report to the Board on institutional goals and performance targets (scheduled for presentation to the Board in November). Susan will be discussing this more fully at the September Council meeting.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Provosts' Council will be held at Oregon Institute of Technology on September 9, 2004 from 10:00-12:00 noon in Mt. Thiesen Room of the College Union. Also scheduled for that day is the Excellence in Delivery and Productivity Working Group meeting from 8:00-10:00 a.m. and the Board/IFS luncheon from 12:00-1:15 p.m. Provosts are invited to attend both of these meetings.

Submitted by Helen Stampe

Possible New Affordability Indicators – Provosts' discussion

1. Average cost of attendance for a resident undergraduate (tuition and fees, room and board, other miscellaneous expenses) as a percent of Oregon median family income

Provosts agreed that this would be a good measure to use. It addresses the Board's concern about connecting tuition increases to a measure such as family income. It can also be used by community colleges (and privates, for that matter), as part of a larger collection of postsecondary sector indicators. The target may be set to maintain a percentage consistent with a past Oregon figure or with a national comparator.

2. Percent of need met by financial aid (resident undergraduates) for students completing a FAFSA form
 - a. Pell Grant recipients
 - b. Other financial aid or scholarship recipients

Provosts agreed that this would also be a good measure to use. It addresses the need-based aid component of the affordability issue, and the measure is framed to permit meaningful target setting.

3. Loan debt for degree completers (needs to be further developed)
 - a. Average dollar amount of loan debt for baccalaureate recipients who obtained a loan, compared to national average for public four-year institutions, **OR**
 - b. Average debt-to-income ratio for recent baccalaureate recipients

Provosts felt that, although it is important to get a handle on loan debt, these measures would not provide the clarity of data needed to eliminate other factors that might muddy the results. This performance area should be reviewed and discussed over the next year for possible inclusion in the performance measures set in the future.

Prepared by Susan Weeks
8/6/04