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Committee members present included: Chair James Francesconi and Directors Jill Eiland, Preston Pulliams (arrived at 1:42 p.m.), and Rosemary Powers. Director Hannah Fisher was absent due to a personal commitment.

Chancellor’s staff present included: Vice Chancellor Sona Andrews, Di Saunders, Bruce Schafer, Marcia Stuart, and Charles Triplett.

Campus representatives included: Provost Kent Neely (WOU) and Senior Vice Provost Russ Tomlin (UO).

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

   Chair Francesconi called the meeting of the Academic Strategies Committee to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MARCH 2011 MINUTES**

   **ACTION:** Directors Rosemary Powers made the motion to approve the minutes and Preston Pulliams seconded. Motion carried.

3. **ACADEMIC PROGRAM APPROVAL**

   ▪ UO, M.A./M.S. in Multimedia Journalism
   ▪ UO, Master in Nonprofit Management

   Chair Francesconi called upon Senior Vice Provost Russ Tomlin, UO Academic Affairs, to provide background on the proposed new programs. Following discussion, Chair Francesconi called for a motion to approve the two programs at the University of Oregon.

   **ACTION:** Directors Rosemary Powers made the motion and Preston Pulliams seconded. Motion carried; Director Eiland was absent during the vote.
4. **MISSION ALIGNMENT**

Chair Francesconi called upon Vice Chancellor Sona Andrews to provide background on the item; it was noted that this proposal will be forwarded to the full Board in June for review and approval. Powers opined that this document, the performance measures policy currently under review by the Governance Committee, and the Secretary of State’s audit of faculty workload should be provided to the full Board as a package.

**ACTION:** Directors Jill Eiland made the motion and Rosemary Powers seconded. Motion carried.

5. **OBS ACTION/WORK PLAN FOR EQUITY INITIATIVES**

Chair Francesconi called upon Dr. Andrews to provide background on the item, noting that this was reviewed by the Committee in the past and is being brought forward for approval. It was emphasized that this is not a comprehensive plan but the first step in the process of creating and implementing equity initiatives by the universities. As the plan progresses, updates will be shared with the Committee. The Committee stressed that it is important to hold the campuses accountable and that regular reports to the Committee would provide opportunities for the Committee members to weigh-in on the progress and direction taken. Francesconi agreed and noted that this is a plan that should encompass all Board Committees and the full Board and the campus representatives reporting to the Committees.

**ACTION:** Director Rosemary Powers made the motion to endorse this approach and plan and to the Committee’s commitment to faculty diversity and the use of diversity in the presidential and Chancellor evaluations and that the plan be forwarded to the full Board for endorsement. Director Jill Eiland seconded. Motion carried.

6. **WOU, APPROVAL OF PREAMBLE, MISSION STATEMENT, AND CORE THEMES**

Chair Francesconi called upon Provost Kent Neely, Western Oregon University, to provide background on the item. Following short discussion, Chair Francesconi called for a motion to approve the proposed preamble, mission statement, and core themes for WOU.

**ACTION:** Directors Jill Eiland made the motion and Rosemary Powers seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

7. **FACULTY SATISFACTION AND CAREER FLEXIBILITY**

Chair Francesconi called upon Dr. Andrews to present not only this item but to inform the Committee of the pending release of the Secretary of State’s audit review of faculty workload. In reference to the audit report, she noted that Chancellor’s staff have concerns about some of the factual misrepresentations in the document and about the depth of understanding with which the auditors bring to the work of the faculty, the operations of universities, and the goals
of the Board. In the report there is little appreciation that faculty are responsible for more than classroom instruction and the OAD report mischaracterizes teaching, research, and service as mutually exclusive activities. In addition to instruction, each regular faculty member at OUS engages in scholarship or research and in service to the campus and the community. These aspects of faculty work are inextricably linked and embodied in the OUS mission. We believe that a fuller understanding by the audit team of the multi-faceted professional responsibilities of our faculty engage in to carry out the Board’s goals may not have changed their recommendations but would have resulted in more reasoned and nuanced reporting and recommendations from them. In discussing the time line for the release of the report, Director Powers recommended that Director Lynda Ciuffetti be included on the conference call with the Secretary of State scheduled for Friday, April 29.

Dr. Andrews then advised that a faculty survey will be disseminated in October, results are anticipated to be received by December, and a report to the Board in January 2012. Discussion was held concerning the survey criteria and Committee involvement.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business brought forth, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.