OUS Provosts’ Council Meeting
February 2, 2006

Minutes

The OUS Provosts’ Council met on February 2, 2006 from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. in the Oak Room, Erb Memorial Union at the University of Oregon.

Attendees: Dave Woodall, Chair, OIT; Lorraine Davis, UO; Lesley Hallick, OHSU; Roy Koch and Bill Feyerherm, PSU; John Miller, EOU; John Moseley, UO; Earl Potter, SOU; Sabah Randhawa, OSU; Jem Spectar, WOU; Sarah Andrews-Collier, IFS; George Pernsteiner, Susan Weeks, Mark Endsley, and Helen Stampe, OUS.

1. Approval of January Minutes and February Agenda
   The minutes of the January 6, 2006 meeting were approved. The agenda for the February meeting was approved with two items added: IFS report and retention discussion. Sarah Andrews-Collier gave each provost the final report on IFS Academic Quality for their information and file.

2. Chancellor’s Report
   Chancellor George Pernsteiner reported on several agenda items that will be discussed at the Board meeting today and the Planning Retreat tomorrow. He noted that we must have draft legislative concepts by April so that they can receive full consideration in the administration’s planning cycle. A high priority for OUS will be a proposal that deals with the retention and graduation of students who are presently at OUS institutions. George will bring a proposal to the EDP committee in April or May for review. Guidance was requested on the requirements for a proposal. The Chancellor suggested answering the following questions:

   (a) What are you trying to achieve?
   (b) What are your metrics for success?
   (c) Is the proposal campus specific, a pilot, or for all campuses?
   (d) What students are targeted?
   (e) If you are successful, how will the approach translate into additional degrees?
   (f) What approach would you take and how does it build on past investments (i.e., the ATLAS project)?
   (g) How does this approach support the Board’s stated goals (i.e., EDP committee)?
   (h) What are the costs and are they one-time or recurring?
   (i) What is the budget over the biennium?

In the discussion, it was noted that recruitment should lead to enrollment growth. However, if enrollment growth is not funded, we cannot succeed because we will not have the resources to serve the students who are driving the enrollment growth. George agreed that this concern needed to be addressed in the proposal as well. Dave Woodall suggested that the Council could continue this discussion later in today’s meeting.
3. **Board Long-Range Planning**
Susan Weeks reported that there will be a Board Planning Retreat on Friday. It will include a focused discussion on the roles of the Board, the presidents, and the institutions. This retreat will be informed by the planning done during the December retreat. It is recognized that the System includes universities with a variety of different missions and that there are spires of excellence within the System. The retreat will continue to focus on four outcome areas: educated citizenry; opportunities for Oregonians; high quality programs; and economic and civic contributions of the universities. There will be a discussion of the principles for achieving outcomes, including: (a) managing the System as a portfolio (optimizing outcomes based on distinctly defined missions); (b) providing greater flexibility in operations; (c) creating a sustainable economic model to achieve goals; and (d) further developing a cooperative approach to K-20 education. Susan also noted that the legislative concepts are due on April 3. Discussion followed.

4. **Response to the State Board of Education White Paper**
Mark Endsley brought up issues related to the State Board of Education White Paper that was presented to the Council in October. While the formal deadline for response is past, he is still seeking input from the Provosts’ Council. Mark indicated that this is an opportunity to influence both high school standards and how standards relate to OUS expectations of student preparation for admission. Discussion followed. It was noted that various groups in the state are working on these issues simultaneously. Jem Spectar will forward to Mark the paper that he and Sabah Randhawa developed during earlier discussions with the EDP subcommittee.

5. **Academic Program Proposals**

**PSU – External Review: Ph.D. in Biology**
- Bill Feyerherm reported that the external review was positive, with some concerns about the competitiveness of faculty salaries and teacher assistant salaries. He indicated that these issues have been discussed with the provost and department head.
- Bill noted that additional faculty resources will be provided as enrollment grows and external funding grows.
- It was the consensus of the Council that the program be recommended to the Board for approval. The program is currently going through the ODA notification process.

**UO – External Review: LL.M. in Environmental and Natural Resources Law**
- Lorraine Davis reported that the external review on the Master of Laws degree was positive and supportive.
- In response to an earlier question, Lorraine noted that if the LL.M. students have a J.D. from an accredited U.S. program, then Oregon will permit them to sit for the bar. If they have a foreign equivalent, they will have to petition the bar and demonstrate the equivalency. The degree does not change their status vis-a-vis taking the bar.
- It was the consensus of the Council that the program be recommended to the Board for approval. The program has completed the ODA notification process.

**WOU – External Review: M.M. in Contemporary Music**
- Jem Spectar reported that the external review on the Master of Music degree was positive.
Jem indicated that, in response to suggestions in the report, they have changed their course numbering and two graduate fellowships that will be allocated to the program from new scholarship resources.

It was the consensus of the Council that the program be recommended to the Board for approval. The program has completed the ODA notification process.

6. **UO Program Terminations**

   Lorraine Davis informed the Council of the termination of two specifications in masters programs:
   - Early Intervention Major in the College of Education
   - Specialization in Family and Human Services within the Major of Counseling, Family and Human Services

7. **Governor’s Office of Rural Policy**

   Earl Potter reported that Jim Azumano, Rural Policy Advisor, wants to partner with OUS institutions through a working group. He wants his office to be better informed through partnerships and plans to have meetings quarterly. The Rural Policy Advisor is an advocate at the Governor’s staff level for place-based policy. Jim is interested in the capacity of the universities to address rural policy issues.

8. **Follow-up Discussion on Retention**

   The Council discussed how to respond to the Chancellor’s request that we participate in the development of a legislative package on retention, including the points that the Chancellor made in his remarks. Dave noted that there are three issues: (a) we have what was presented at the last legislative session; (b) we have the input from Jem’s committee; and (c) we have a very short timeline to respond. It was proposed to get a small subcommittee together to develop a “white paper” within the next two to three weeks. The white paper should be sent to the Council members for review prior to the next meeting so there would be some consensus about moving forward within this short timeline. It was agreed that Roy Koch, Jem Spectar, and Dave Woodall will take the lead on developing the white paper.

9. **Other Items**

   - It was announced that OIT, PSU, and OHSU will be presenting programs to the Provosts’ Council at the March meeting. They are: B.S. in Applied Mathematics (OIT); Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OHSU); and the revised Ph.D. in Sociology and Social Inequality (PSU).
   - Lorraine Davis announced that the University of Oregon has selected a new provost, Dr. Linda Brady, who is currently at North Carolina State University. Dr. Brady will be introduced to the provosts at the March meeting by John Moseley, and will begin at the UO on May 15, 2006.

10. **Next Meeting**

    The next meeting of the Provosts’ Council will be held on March 2, 2006 at Portland State University from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m.