OUS Provosts’ Council Meeting
May 4, 2006
Minutes

The OUS Provosts’ Council met on May 4, 2006 from noon to 3:00 p.m. in Room 307, Cramer Hall at Portland State University.

Attendees: Dave Woodall, Chair, OIT; Lesley Hallick, OHSU; Roy Koch, PSU; John Miller, EOU; John Moseley, UO; Earl Potter, SOU; Sabah Randhawa, OSU; Jem Spector, WOU; Sarah Andrews-Collier, IFS; George Pernsteiner, Susan Weeks, Jay Kenton, Glen Nelson, Mark Endsley, Robert Mercer, and Jonathan Jacobs, OUS.

1. Approval of April Minutes and May Agenda
The minutes of the April 6, 2006 meeting were approved as presented. The agenda for the May meeting was approved.

2. Chancellor’s Report
Chancellor Pernsteiner and members of his staff provided an update on 30 OUS legislative policy packages (many in preliminary stages) under consideration. George asked for input from the Provosts’ Council on which of these packages support planned increases in the base of OUS funding and input on which of them should be coordinated with other educational groups through the Joint Boards Working Group. Jay Kenton reported that the essential budget level for the System is expected to be about 13% higher next biennium. This includes elements of faculty and classified salary increases and other payroll expense increases. He also commented on the Governor’s budget, fund balances, and capital budget issues and the need to obtain funding beyond the Governor’s budget for sustainability.

3. Update on Policy Packages
Dave Woodall led a discussion on the policy packages provided earlier. Of the 30 listed, the Council had previously received 19, with a couple more obtained from the EDP meeting. The policy packages were categorized as follows: (a) which ones are new initiatives, (b) which ones support refunding the base budget, and (c) which ones are peripheral to the OUS budget. The Council reviewed each of the policy packages briefly. Several will require additional work; e.g., merging the teacher education packages and determining which fit into the base or would be addition to the base; identifying those that are legislatively required such as the proposal stemming from SB 342; and completing the write-ups to facilitate further review.

4. Academic Program Proposals
OIT – B.S. in Biology
- Dave Woodall reported that this program builds on existing curricula in environmental science and health sciences and would provide additional opportunities for students in field biology. The cost of the program is minor due to the use of courses from other degrees.
There were a number of issues raised, including the lack of time for input on the program by other related programs. SOU noted that this program would impact their biology program and needed further discussion. UO noted that the health science track does not differ from the existing health sciences degree and that the labeling of the degree should be reviewed. OSU faculty had similar concerns. WOU commented that their faculty was generally favorable to the degree with some minor modifications.

The Council recommended that Dave take the program back to faculty for further review; they should consider repackaging health science and environmental courses to do a better job of describing content; they should consider making it more consistent with typical biology degrees; and they should work with SOU on their issues.

**UO – Graduate Certificate in Communication Ethics**

- John Moseley reported that this certificate includes courses that will enable students to get a certificate within their Journalism master’s degree. There is no additional new cost involved.
- Questions were raised as to whether this could be a stand-alone program in ethics, whether students in other master’s degree programs could participate, and whether the number of credit hours exceeds the System definition of certificates.
- The Council consensus was to recommend the program for approval to the Board. The program should proceed with the ODA notification process.

**Reminder:** New programs to be reviewed by the Provosts’ Council need to be forwarded two weeks in advance of meetings for adequate review time. It is expected that the proposing campus will get feedback from faculty with related programs at other OUS institutions prior to submission.

5. **Program Name Changes**

**OIT** – Dave Woodall informed the Council of the following degree name change:
- B.S. in Management Information Systems with Options and B.S. in Information Technology to B.S. in Information Technology with Options

**SOU** – Earl Potter informed the Council of the following degree name change:
- School of Social Science and Health and Physical Education to School of Social Sciences

Without objection, these name changes were approved as submitted.

6. **Departmental Changes**

**SOU** – Earl Potter informed the Council of the following departmental changes:
- Move the History Department from the School of Social Sciences to the School of Arts and Letters
- Women’s Studies Program will be shared between the School of Arts and Letters and the School of Social Sciences

Without objection, these departmental changes were approved as submitted.
7. **Update on the Provosts’ Council Charge**
   There was a discussion on the revised draft of the Provosts’ Council charge dated May 1, 2006. It was decided that the final document be tabled for a future meeting.

8. **Other Items**
   - **Diplomas**: There was a discussion about the presentation of degree titles on diplomas. The consensus was that degrees should be listed on the diploma with the Board approved degree title.
   - **AOF Rulemaking Petitions**:
     *Transfer of Accumulated Unused Sick Leave* – the document asks that the institutions be allowed to have faculty or unclassified administrative staff transfer or donate sick leave to other employees in the same category.
     *Transfer of Staff Fee Privileges* – the document has three issues (a) allowing multiple eligible persons using it at the same time; (b) increasing the academic credit per term from 12 to 16; and (c) amend to allow children of deceased faculty members to be eligible. It was noted that in the document as proposed, it only addresses (a) and (b).
   
   Discussion was held on petitions submitted from the Association of Oregon Faculties. Regarding the transfer of unused sick leave, it was determined that this proposal needs be considered in light of different campus situations. Regarding the transfer of staff fee privileges, it was the consensus of the Council that the policy not be approved. Dave will advise the Chancellor on the provosts’ recommendations and concerns.
   
   - **Provosts’ Council Chair for 2006-07**: The Council selected a new chair for 2006-07 – Sabah Randhawa from OSU, effective July 1, 2006. Helen Stampe will continue to provide staff support to the Council.

9. **Next Meeting**
   The next meeting of the Provosts’ Council will be held on June 1, 2006 at Eastern Oregon University from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m.

*Prepared by H. Stampe / Reviewed by D. Woodall*