Describe your institution’s tuition strategy. Describe how the strategy fits within the overall strategic plans of the institution and system.

1. Describe the process used to ensure student participation in the development of the proposed rates, include a summary of the feedback received from students on the proposed rates.

EOU prides itself in student involvement on issues that directly concern and impact students. Tuition is one of these cases. As recently stated in our Northwest Association of Colleges and Universities most recent accreditation visit, this commitment did not go unnoticed when we received the following commendation in the official report:

"The evaluation team commends Eastern Oregon University for its robust, open and inclusive tuition setting process. This process utilizes a broad spectrum of relevant data elements and is truly participatory with active involvement throughout the process from a cross-section of campus including students, staff and faculty via the Tuition Advisory and Budget & Planning Committees as well as through university-wide open forums. The positive impact of this process is evident in the level of student support for proposed increases and complimentary feedback at the Oregon University System level."

We have followed the same approach as we have had in previous years in gaining the insights and suggestions from students in particular. In addition, as we have always viewed tuition as a continuum, not a point-in-time decision, the work of the committee was greatly shaped by previous year’s work and this year’s work will assist and shape next year’s efforts.

2. Provide benchmarks or peer group comparisons, if any were used to inform your process.

We closely follow the reports of our fellow “TRU” universities as well as Washington State, Eastern Washington, Central Washington, University of Idaho, and Boise State. In addition, we utilize the reports generated by the Trends in College Pricing, 2013 a comprehensive report that is produced annually by the College Board. It is our goal, is setting tuition, that EOU remain the best value for our students. This requires us to retain our leadership role in college affordability through the “sticker price” of tuition, as well as in the total cost of attendance (room, board, books, etc.) and in our efforts to provide remissions to EOU’s most financially disadvantaged students.

3. Describe how the proposed rates will impact access and affordability on your campus. Include a discussion of how you intend to meet the Board’s policy of funding at least 12% of unmet need of resident undergraduate students.

As stated above, EOU strives to be the best value for our students from the selected regions we serve—which includes 93 percent of our students being declared as Pell eligible. As 94 percent of our students receive need based, we strive to meet the financial stresses of our students as best as we possibly can. However, as recently
reported in the *Oregonian*, March 19, 2014, in *Oregon College Students face limited opportunity to win Oregon Opportunity Grants*, this effort is becoming harder and harder especially with the demographics of the students served by EOU. As first generation college students, our students—especially first time freshman—are not typically well versed in details of these types of programs and, as they routinely decide to attend college well after a majority of the students, are too late in applying for these grants. As a consequence, EOU awards more in self-fund remissions, striving to meet or exceed the Board’s targets, based on need and, as an unintended consequence, this puts pressures on EOU’s already sensitive revenue streams.

4. Provide a summary of how this rate proposal will maintain campus financial sustainability over the fiscal year with projections of Education and General (E&G) fund balance at 6/30/15.

EOU’s opportunity to increase non-resident revenue is a significant effort. We are strategically increasing this amount to gain a reputation for providing great value for students from Alaska, Hawaii, Nevada, Montana, northern California, and Utah in particular. We continue to offer Western Undergraduate Exchange rates and this is proving to be beneficial as we have capacity in programs.

Graduate rates increases of 5 percent also maintains a solid and predictable revenue stream while preserving access.

5. Provide the specific tuition and fee rates being proposed.
   - If any new differential tuition rates are being proposed include supporting documentation as specified in the Board’s Differential Tuition Policy.
   - If rate increases are being proposed, discuss how incremental revenues will be deployed.
   - Discuss how proposals comport with the Legislative Budget Note – HB 5101 (2013 Special Session).

   For the 2014-15 academic year, the Legislature intends that there be no increases in the base rates per credit hour paid by resident undergraduate students at all seven campuses and one branch campus (EOU, OIT, OSU, OSU-Cascades, PSU, SOU, UO, and WOU). For students choosing the Tuition Promise program at WOU, rates of increase over the prior cohort may not exceed 2.2% for the 2014-15 academic year.”

EOU conforms to this budget note in that resident undergraduate tuition does not increase.

Incremental increases, in non-resident and graduate tuition rates, will be used to offset increased costs and to provide a foundation for fiscal sustainability.

Our recommended tuition increases for resident undergraduate, non-resident undergraduate, resident graduate and non-resident graduate are attached.