

- **Follow-up on AIC recommended funding:**

Deans Girod and Winningham and I reviewed the AIC recommendations. We are supportive of the AIC funding recommendations and will proceed with the full funding amounts.

As noted earlier by AIC chair, Dirk Freymuth, the university holds an additional \$100,000 for facility improvements. VP Yahnke and I will be directing any remaining funds from the \$100,000 pool not needed to cover any cost-overruns on the AIC equipment recommendations (and associated shipping charges, etc.) to complete infrastructure projects in the Richard Woodcock building.

- **Update on Academic Affairs Council drafting of syllabus guidance document:** The AAC did meet, noted best to craft a syllabus template – on-line – that can be auto filled with much of the content required on a syllabus and a registry of statements or advise to inform the faculty member on the construction of a syllabus. We're still editing, but will provide Faculty Senate the draft for suggestions/endorsement.

- **Willamette Promise assessment-based credit resolution meeting with OSU:** next Wednesday, March 22.

- **NWCCU has had a change in review policy:** NWCCU no longer requires specific review of programs that are less than one year in length as a full-time student -- so minors (< 45) and graduate certificates (< 27) will stop at the Board of Trustee point. Addition of such programs will be captured on the annual report we file with NWCCU each June. Baccalaureate and master degrees will still need to go to Provost Council, HECC, NWCCU.

- **Interdisciplinary transfer degree completion project:**

On Friday, March 3rd, over 20 faculty convened at Gentle House and spent the day envisioning ways WOU could organize 90-unit curricular pathways for degree completers who hold AAS degrees via building an upside down degree.—i.e., gen ed heavily at upper-division level.

Of those attending this retreat, about 10 faculty members are ready to continue working on this to deliver a new program proposal to the Faculty Senate by Fall 2017.

Meanwhile, others, including the interdisciplinary studies oversight committee, are working on clarifying AAOT transfer pathways into interdisciplinary degree paths that can readily be done in a 90 community college + 90 WOU credit completion total.

I wish to thank all who have engaged in this type of work. I am delighted to add my enthusiastic support to such innovative curricular design enterprises such as these. Such efforts will contribute to the educational value that WOU can provide the State of Oregon.

- **Summer task force to reconfigure the 180-unit degree model.** I will be drawing from the faculty individuals to build a small team to spend time this summer on the 180 unit Fr-Sr and 90+90 transfer unit baccalaureate models for presentation to Faculty Senate next fall. The model must account for major, general education, electives, minors – and be crafted to address the students we serve: first gen, transfer, etc. A 4-unit course

summer contract will be associated with this engagement. (Similar to strategic planning work over the summer.)

- **Linda Stonecipher mentioned a situation where Kim Jensen** connected a history student working on her senior thesis with Linda for Linda's expert insight on the student's project. Linda noted the remarkable experience this student has had since coming to WOU. The student came in with accelerated credits, did study abroad last fall and will finishing next fall -- two terms short of 4 years.
- **Academic Excellence Showcase session chair drive.** Still two information sessions remaining: March 20, 2-3 in Ochoco Rm.; and April 7, 1-2 in the Rogue Rm. Please contact PURE Coordinator Ava Howard if you have questions.