

- **The Oversight Committee for High School Based College Credit Partnerships** (a HECC supported committee; Dr. Erin Baumgartner is a public university faculty representative on this committee) is calling for faculty familiar with accelerated learning credit to volunteer to serve as peer reviewers of college and university accelerated learning programs. Peer review is electronic with a modest amount of training. The faculty member would serve on one review committee dealing with one college or university. These reviews take place in August – September.

Use this link to add a peer reviewer name:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/peer\\_reviewers](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/peer_reviewers)

Western Oregon University and five other schools, including Portland State and Eastern Oregon, will be undergoing review in 2018. Timing of the review is likely to be in August – September. We will be filing an application in May for our Willamette Promise program.

- **Confusion about my comments** about reassignment of Dan Clark to implement programming in Salem – Dr. Clark will not be WOU’s point-person overseeing programming in Salem. He is on campus working directly for me doing analysis work necessary to determine our capacity to support various new initiatives, such as resources needed for pushing programming into Salem.
- **180-unit related implementation programming** – we are preparing for how changes associated with the evolving general education curriculum; BA/BS degree program adjustments; enrollment trends in majors; timing, frequency and format of course offerings and other similar factors will affect how we ensure that we have the appropriate composition of faculty to serve our future students and curricular programs.
- **The early retirement initiative** will cause us to review staffing in departments. If a faculty member elects to participate in the retirement offer – or engage in the gradual retirement option provided for in the WOUFT-WOU CBA – we will need to look at those future vacancies for: replacement of tenure lines, conversion to NTT lines, or reassigning to meet demand in growth in new fields.

Each vacancy will be reviewed factoring in variables such as balance of TT to NTT in programs so that we have buffering capacity for enrollment fluctuations; need for expanding programming offerings or adjusting for contracting programs; curricular service for cultural diversity programming; opportunities for joint appointments to serve in more interdisciplinary roles.

We will begin review of vacancies in January after the deadline for faculty to notify the university of intent to retire. Depending variables such as I’ve just noted, searches may: 1) happen immediately if a quality search could be launched during winter term; 2) happen next academic year; 3) be delayed until a program has the opportunity to assess its future programming direction and faculty involvement in major, minor, general education, new

initiatives; 4) a position determined to be unnecessary to replace because excess TT-NTT capacity exists.

- **Closing comment:** I was unable to attend fall Preview Day last Saturday, but I do wish to thank all faculty who support our recruitment efforts by engaging with prospective students and family members at these events.

Recently, Faculty Senator Dr. Mark Van Steeter was commenting to me how he had crashed an admissions campus tour group and began talking with prospective students and parents. Mark indicated that he had a very enjoyable visit and as he was walking away he heard one student remark something to the effect. "I've never met a professor before." This was the second time Mark had informally joined a tour group, both times with very positive interaction with the group. I'd encourage faculty to consider some version of this...we have all walked by such groups. A few moments of conversation can make a memorable difference to the tour members.