

Staff Senate

Minutes

May 04, 2020 (2:00-3:30 pm)

Online Via Zoom

Call to Order via ZOOM video conference 2:03 pm

In attendance: Max Chartier, Kyler Dreyer, Laura Lyon, Olivia Flores, Ryan Jennings, Colin Haines, Beth Jones, Laura Tierney, Dorothy McInerney, Kathy Bolen, Eric Dickey, Tony Manso

Absent:

Guests: Bev West

Approval of minutes

- Draft in Staff Senate Team Drive for April 20, 2020
- Approved in the meeting by Colin seconded by Beth

Reports

- President's Update (Dr. Rex Fuller, President Western Oregon University)\
 - CARES funding goes through this Friday
 - There will be funding through the foundation for DACA students
 - CARES also has funds for the university to use for things such as digital/remote learning
 - We are down 6% in Spring compared to Fall and Winter which was 5% FTE students
 - There is an increase in graduate enrollment due to the Salem location.
 - Dr. Fuller will send out a written report to Laura to share with Staff Senate
 - The goal for Fall is to reopen and have face to face classes but we do need to be flexible and think about using hybrid models. The goal is to use technology to make classes meaningful.
 - All campuses in the state of Oregon will be using the same template for reopening in the Fall.
 - Commencement is virtual this year but students are welcome to come back and

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walk-in June 2021

- There will be a town hall this Friday at 9 am and Tuesday the 12th at 2 pm regarding academic affairs and what it might look like for Fall 2020.
- Question: Has there been talk about reduced tuition for Spring? -the tuition has not been reduced but class fees were assessed and changed as appropriate. There will be a 4.5% tuition increase for the 2020-2021 academic year. More information can be found in the docket from the board of trustees meeting on April 15th, 2020
- The Vick building is still under renovation but is planning on being operation in Fall 2020.
- The legislative short session did not pass very many buildings so there might be a special session after May 20th which is when the new state budget will be made. The hope is that our construction bills are looked at and passed as well as the board of trustee appointments being reviewed.
- In the fiscal year 2021, we are being asked for an 8.5% reduction in costs
- There was a .2 FTE reduction for June and July for all unclassified employees this was done in hopes of helping this year's budget as well as next year's budget.
- For new employees starting in June, HR and other admins are currently talking about what the protocols will be.
- As for being the most affordable the question was asked about remaining the most affordable institution per credit in the state. Tuition will not be revisited this year after the 4.5% increase was approved.
- Staff Senate Round table status reports
 - All 1.0 FTE unclassified folks took a .2 FTE reduction besides people in TRI and those who are grant-funded as well as 9-month staff members.

New Business

- Staff Communication Proposal (Bev West)

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- This would be something that would be created to help recognize staff and members of WOU could showcase what they are doing both on and off-campus. A simple form that people submit to then be reviewed and presented to the board of trustees.
- Once the COVID crisis and aftermath subside, we could talk about ways to showcase all the important things that staff does as WOU
- Laura will look at what faculty presents to the BoT for us to gather examples of ways we can format this communication proposal
- UDIAC Diversity Plan
 - The strategic plan was uploaded into the shared drive and was reviewed in the meeting and approved as is 10-0-0
- Staff Senate attendance bylaws for sub-committees
- Staff Senate Communication: timeline
- Staff Senate Communication: template
- Staff Senate Communication: SS president email address
 - Moved to create a staff senate email to send correspondence out to the rest of WOU. Vote: 10-0-0
 - Ryan will look at ways that this can be done and bring the ideas to be reviewed at the next meeting
- Review and approve the Staff Connections Newsletter
 - Approved in meeting 10-0-0

Unfinished Business

- Policies versus procedures at WOU: Employee evaluations

Announcements

- May 18 meeting will be held via ZOOM conferencing

Adjourn