

# **Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon**

September 8-9, 2016

The Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon (Board) met in the Ford Alumni Center on the University of Oregon (UO) campus on September 8-9, 2016. Below is a summary of Board reports, discussions, and actions. An audio recording is maintained on file.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

**Convening, Introduction, Approval of Minutes.** The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Chair Chuck Lillis. All members were present and a quorum verified. The Board approved minutes from its June 2016 meeting without amendment.

**Public Comment.** Following is a list of individuals who spoke and the general topic(s) of their remarks.

- David Igl Alumnus: spoke in opposition to de-naming Dunn Hall.
- Natalie Fisher Student; ASUO External Vice President: spoke in favor of de-naming Dunn Hall and Deady Hall.
- Quinn Haaga Student; ASUO President: spoke in favor of de-naming Dunn Hall and Deady Hall.

Recommendation re Dunn Hall. President Schill presented trustees with a recommendation to de-name Dunn Hall. He referred people to his written remarks shared with campus one week ago and reminded trustees that this discussion stemmed from a set of demands by the Black Student Task Force. President Schill provided a recap of the process used to reach his recommendation, which began with a university task force to develop criteria by which de-naming would be considered and also included generation of a report by three historians commissioned by President Schill to analyze Frederick Dunn and Matthew Deady with respect to the criteria. President Schill reported that close to 1,000 comments were received through the online portal, noting that although the online forum is not a poll or vote of any sort it was clear that the majority of respondents favored de-naming Dunn and it was split about evenly with regard to Deady. (Note: Deady Hall was not a topic for discussion at this meeting of the Board.) Trustees expressed support for the president's process and thoughtfulness, as well as the Black Student Task Force; asked for more background on how the criteria were established; and raised issues to consider with regard to the ongoing discussion about Deady Hall.

ACTION: The Board considered the resolution to rename Dunn Hall to Cedar Hall (a temporary name). The resolution was moved by Colas and seconded by Paustian. The motion carried by a vote of 14-0.

**Seconded Motions from Committee.** Finance and Facilities Committee (FFC) Chair Ross Kari provided a summary of two resolutions before trustees, which were seconded motions from FFC.

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ACTION: The Board considered the resolution to approve the Oregon Hall renovation project. The resolution passed by voice vote without dissent.

ACTION: The Board considered the resolution to approve the Pacific Hall renovation project. The resolution passed by voice vote without dissent.

**New Administrator Introductions.** Senior Vice President and Provost Scott Coltrane introduced trustees to several new senior administrators:

- Vice President for Research and Innovation David Conover expressed enthusiasm for this
  point in the UO's history and its overall research portfolio, and described his ability to
  engage at the university given his varied background as a practicing researcher and research
  administrator.
- Architecture and Allied Arts (AAA) Dean Christoph Lindner expressed his passion for the UO's role as a public research institution committed to diversity and access and his enthusiasm for joining the UO at this exciting point in time. He noted that he wants to build on the interdisciplinary strengths of AAA, strengthen its research portfolio and grow the PhD program, and further its national and international impact and reputation.
- School of Journalism and Communication (SOJC) Dean Juan-Carlos Molleda explained that he was drawn to the UO's SOJC because of its strong foundation and its tremendous opportunity and is excited to be part of a new leadership team. He looks forward to building on the success of the school thus far and its students, especially in the evolving world.
- Doneka Scott, the UO's new associate vice provost for student success, expressed passion for this role and the opportunity to help students succeed in leaving "with a degree in hand." She explained that her vision and focus is on eliminating barriers to graduation and success and having a robust advising system despite the UO's decentralized organization.
- Kris Winter, who will join the UO as associate vice president and dean of students on September 19, expressed enthusiasm for serving students and joining the UO to begin embarking on a strategic visioning process with her new team. She noted the transformative experience she had as a student at the UO and her excitement to help future generations of students.

**President's Report.** President Schill first discussed the important additions to the university's senior leadership teams, articulating his appreciation for the varied and critical work people throughout the university are doing to re-stabilize and aggressively move forward on key initiatives. He updated trustees on the searches for a new provost and new deans of the School of Law and the Lundquist College of Business. President Schill then provided an update regarding demands of the Black Student Task Force and work related thereto. He also provided an update on the capital campaign, noting the success of FY 2016 and years to date, and current momentum in the first quarter of FY 2017. He finished with a brief overview of the general budget situation facing the state and the university.

**Recess**. The meeting was recessed until September 9, 2016.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

**Reconvening.** Chair Lillis reconvened the meeting at 9:35 a.m. on Friday, September 9. All trustees were in attendance.

Presidential Assessment Report. Chair Lillis and Vice Chair Ralph recapped the process used for the 2016 annual presidential assessment, which included feedback from deans, vice presidents and the president's direct reports, as well as a self-evaluation from President Schill. Vice Chair Ralph articulated some of the most common sentiments expressed in the review process, including his positive attitude, fundraising capability, and ability to bridge groups and build relationships. Vice Chair Ralph noted that she and Chair Lillis met with President Schill in person to discuss the feedback in more detail. She also noted that respondents throughout the process were overwhelmingly enthusiastic for the UO and its future. Chair Lillis mentioned that it was a terrific first year for the president and spoke to the process underway to develop a list of goals for Academic Year (AY) 2016-17. President Schill thanked the board for his positive review and expressed continued passion and enthusiasm for improving the school and its bright direction. He acknowledged the hard work of many people who help move the school forward collegially.

**Tuition and Fee Setting Process. Provost** Coltrane walked trustees through the process established for the 2016-17 evaluation and setting of tuition and fees for 2017-18. He articulated a generalized calendar and set of principles related to Tuition and Fee Advisory Board appointments, timing of critical data analyses and decisions, and campus participation and feedback. Trustees asked whether any structural issues regarding tuition would be part of the discussion this year; President Schill indicated that there are ongoing conversations around such issues, but that it was unlikely—given all the other uncertainties facing the budget this year—that a structural change would be on the table this year. Trustees also asked questions about uncertainties within the budget and state appropriations and associated timing issues.

Clusters in Focus. Coltrane and Conover introduced the topic of clusters of excellence and faculty hiring by proving a brief recap of the initiative's progress in whole. Erik Selker, professor of Biology and member of the Institute for Molecular Biology, was joined by Assistant Professors of Biology Diana Libuda and Jeff McKnight for a presentation on the progress-to-date in the Center for Genome Function, an internally-funded cluster. They provided an overview of the science on which the cluster is focusing and also spoke to the enthusiasm of young scientists and researchers for this initiative. Selker explained that the goal is not to have the UO become specialized in one nuanced area of genome studies, but instead to have the UO become the best in whole as a team looking at genome function broadly. Beth Stormshak, professor of Counseling Psychology and Human Services and Director of the Prevention Science Institute, then spoke with trustees about the Health Promotion, Obesity Prevention, and Human Development cluster. She walked trustees through the initial timeline and hires, and spoke about the anticipated short-term and long-term objectives for the initiative, which include areas of study across fields such as genetics, biology, neurobiology, physiology, psychology, education and others.

**Federal Funding at the UO.** Chair Lillis introduced the next topic by reminding attendees of the important relationship the UO has with the federal government, largely in the form of funding in both research and financial aid. Conover presented to the board on the research side of this, providing statistics around research proposals, sponsored research funding obtained, and trends in

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federally-funding research at the UO. Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and Director of Financial Aid Jim Brooks then spoke to the board about federal funding related to student financial aid, including grants and loans. He noted the scope and sources of financial aid provided to UO students from the federal government, the largest of which is student loans. Brooks also spoke about the importance of data management and the various regulatory requirements associated with receiving/distributing federal aid dollars. Associate Vice President for Federal Affairs Betsy Boyd spoke to the board briefly about the role of federal advocacy and the current landscape around federal policy and funding. Trustees noted that they are willing and able to assist with federal advocacy when beneficial.

**UO Portland Planning Update.** Vice Provost for UO Portland Jane Gordon provided trustees with an overview of current operations in Portland. She also updated trustees on work around a strategic vision and plan for the UO's operations in Portland, which focus on graduation and professional education, alumni relations, recruitment and development. Gordon said that she will be prepared in December to present a vision statement to the board for UO Portland, and that she will be working—in close coordination with the president and provost—with faculty around the development of a clear strategic intent for academic programming in Portland. She will also work closely with various administrative offices (e.g. community affairs, enrollment, student life, advancement, etc.) on a strategic plan for operational programming. Trustees expressed a strong desire to see a plan in the near future and support for the clear articulation—and execution—of a plan for Portland.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.