

# FACULTY SENATE

Minutes

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, 6:00 PM, the

## Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 5, 2017

ASOIT counsel will be travelling to Portland/Metro to meet with their ASOIT executive board.

### Reports of Standing Committees

#### 1 Matthew Sleep

RPT to meet with Provost on April 6, 2018 to discuss the Provost's suggested changes to the Non-Tenure Track policy that was approved by Faculty Senate June 6, 2017 and how to move forward.

RPT was asked to provide committee members to serve on the *ad hoc* committee that will be considering faculty workload, compensation, and RPT. Matthew Sleep and Christopher Syrnyk have volunteered to serve on this *ad hoc* committee.

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### Reports of Special or Committee

Academic Calendar *ad hoc* Committee was unavailable to have representation this evening, therefore Dr. Thamer gave the committee update. Discussion and recommendations were originally given in December's Faculty Senate meeting. It was reiterated that Oregon Tech is challenged to meet the state requirements for contact hours (1.5 days) fall term. The Academic Calendar committee was charged to provide their two best recommendations. After considering many options the following options were presented:

Option 1: Change the starting date of the Fall term so that it begins on the Wednesday before the traditional Monday start date, and that the university be closed beginning the full day on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving through the Friday of that week.

Option 2: Take the entire week of Thanksgiving off and add a week at the end of the fall term.

Much discussion followed taking into account other Oregon universities academic calendars, impact on convocation, student perspective, and faculty contracts. Finally there was a motion to present Option 1 as a recommendation to Provost. The motion was seconded; vote was taken, motion failed 10 to 12. The decision for the academic calendar was passed to the Provost without a faculty recommendation. The Provost requested that all information from the committee be sent to him.

### Unfinished Business

None.

### New Business

None.

### Open Floor Period

Aja Bettencourt-McCarthy encouraged faculty, staff, and students to nominate faculty members for the "Excellence in Teaching" award. Nominations are now open.

Kevin Pintong mentioned poor communication regarding a class cancelation that resulted in disruption to CSET students. It was requested that Kevin forward information regarding this incident to the Provost.

### Update from the President of the University | Nagi Naganathan

Dr. Naganathan reports that many things are changing in Salem. The next long legislative session is very important in terms of how we will be positioned with respect to support of the University system.

We were able to keep funding for the new engineering building.

Governor Kate Brown will be this year's commencement speaker. This will be the first time a Governor will come to Oregon Tech as a commencement speaker.

We have approximately \$53 million for projects, such as the Cornett Hall renovation project and infrastructure projects/updates around campus.

Dr. Naganathan requests discussion suggestions for the April 24 Faculty/Administration meeting.

We have our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coming up. This is an opportunity to put Oregon Tech on the radar and revive alumni and community connections.

The Board has three principal goals: increase enrollment, increase net revenue and increase prominence of the institution.

It is imperative that we recreate a larger conversion rate from the current high school students taking Oregon Tech college credits.

Faculty and Departments can be most effective in terms of raising enrollment numbers in the conversation process.



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Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Klamath Union High School for their math and science academy.

Report of the President's Council Delegate | David Thaemert

Preparing agenda items to submit to President's Council but no meeting yet.

Report of the Association of Oregon Faculty (AOF) Representative | Alternate | Matthew Sleep

No report.

Report of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate (IFS) Representative | Mark Clark

IFS met in Corvallis last month, main items of discussion were House Bill 2998; they are making considerable progress in this area. Also discussed dual credit procedures.

Toured the new OSU state of the art classroom building, which is four stories and holds 5000 students.

Report of the Fiscal Operations Advisory Council (