

Meeting of the
Oregon Tech Board of Trustees
Executive Committee
CEET Board Room, Klamath Falls, OR
And virtually via Microsoft Teams
April 13, 2023
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Executive Committee DRAFT Minutes

Trustees Present:

John Davis, Chair
Jeremy Brown

Kelley Minty
Nagi Naganathan (ex officio)

Vince Jones

Trustees Unable to Attend:

Celia Núñez
Fred Ziari

Other Trustees in Attendance:

Phong Nguyen

Kanth Gopalpur

Stefan Bird

University Staff and Faculty Present in person:

Abdy Afjeh, Vice Provost Research & Academic Affairs & Interim Dean of ETM
Erin Foley,

No changes voiced. Minutes approved as submitted.

3. Reports

3.1 Government Relations Update AVP of Government Relations Kimberly Koops

- AVP Koops shared her background with the committee.
- AVP Koops discussed the legislative sessions and Oregon Tech's priorities, including the Public University Support Fund, Oregon Opportunity Grant, and other funding opportunities.
- AVP Koops shared information on notable state bills that are being tracked that are applicable to Oregon Tech and higher education.
- Trustee Davis asked Koops to talk about the status of the budget discussion in the legislature. Koops advised that the governor has come out with her proposed budget, which was a cut for higher education. The co-chair's budget has been made public and includes a reduction from the current service level. She emphasized how critical it is for Oregon Tech to advocate for a higher funding level. Chair Davis asked about the budgetary timeline, and Koops advised we should hear something in late May or early June.
- AVP Koops discussed Oregon Tech's specific priorities in the legislature, including an \$18 million bonding request for emergency geothermal system renovations, \$15 million for technical and regional university sustainability, and the 75th Anniversary resolution.
- AVP Koops advised that our "take home" priority is the geothermal emergency renovation request. Geothermal is a defining aspect of Oregon Tech that needs to be repaired and continued. The governor's budget did not include any capital projects for higher education, so this project is taking a unique path for approval. It does not fit into the HECC rubric to score the project, and advised to take it to the legislature. Community partners and internal Oregon Tech stakeholders have submitted many letters of support.
- AVP Koops advised that there have been several tours of the Portland Metro campus to legislators and frequent visits by President Naganathan to the legislature. Members of the Board including Chair Davis have also presented testimonies.

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