

**University Senate Meeting
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
3:00-5:00 pm
EMU – Crater Lake Rooms**

Attendance can be found at the end of the minutes.

1. Call to Order: 3:03 pm

1.1 Introductory Remarks – Senate President Chris Sinclair

President Sinclair reminded senators that the annual Senate Committee Service Survey is due to close soon. He urged everyone to fill it out and to encourage others to do the same. He said it is likely that the survey will remain open for several days after the deadline.

Sinclair reported that the Senate will be asked to meet in executive session at its April 25 meeting to consider nominees for UO honorary doctorate degrees. At the administration's request, the Senate adopted new procedures last year for selecting honorary degree recipients. Nominations go through the Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Service Awards Committee which makes recommendations to the Senate. The Senate then votes on which nominees to forward to the UO president. President Schill can nominate up to two people a year and send their names to the Board of Trustees for final approval. Senate staff distributed packets of information to senators about the four people who will be up for consideration at the next Senate meeting. Sinclair noted that it is important that this information remain confidential.

Program Assistant Kurt Willcox reminded senators that nominations for the Senate's four annual awards are open until April 24. He said there have been few nominations so far and urged everyone to spread the word about their availability. Willcox described the awards and the process by which recipients will be selected.

Sinclair reviewed key Senate actions during Fall and Winter Terms and listed those projects he hopes the Senate will complete before the end of this academic year. So far, the Senate has voted to create a Core Education Council, implement an expedited tenure process, establish a consent calendar, and adopt a credit transfer agreement developed by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). Those issues remaining to be acted on include adopting core education learning goals for the methods of inquiry laid out in the UO Mission Statement, revising the UO's multicultural requirement, implementing a new process for student evaluation of teaching, and making adjustments to the membership and responsibilities of several Senate committees. Sinclair said he feels the Senate is on target to complete its remaining projects. The last Senate meeting on June 6 will feature the election of next year's vice president and the presentation of Senate awards followed by a reception.

2. Approval of Minutes:

2.1 March 14, 2018 – Senators offered no objections to or corrections of the minutes as currently posted, so President Sinclair declared them approved.

3. State of the University:

3.1 Remarks – Melanie Muenzer, Associate Vice President and Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives

Melanie Muenzer who was recently named the UO administration's liaison to the University Senate introduced herself to senators. She said she was involved in President Barack Obama's first campaign, served on his transition team, and spent seven years as a deputy assistant to the head of the federal Department of Education. She came to the UO about 18 months ago first as an assistant to then-Provost Scott Coltrane and now as a member of Provost Jayanth Banavar's staff. Muenzer said she asked for the Senate liaison role, because she believes the administration and Senate can work together. She stressed that the administration values its relationship with the Senate and cited the fact that someone at her level of the organization was made the liaison as evidence of that commitment. Muenzer said she knows little about the Senate's history or processes, but is interested in learning about them.

Muenzer then spoke about the administration's interest in revising its conflict of interest policy and expressed concern about how Senate Vice President Bill Harbaugh had characterized that effort on his UO Matters blog. Muenzer described the current arrangements as confusing to faculty, who in the end are personally at risk for any violations that occur, not the university. The university wants to provide faculty with greater clarity about how their outside activities, such as creating spin-off businesses based on their discoveries, relate to their work for the university. She cited as an example the process she went through last year when she decided to run for a seat on the Lane Community College Board of Education. The Vice President for Research and Innovation wants to get people thinking about potential conflicts early on when they apply for grants and to provide them with good information and counseling in this area.

Muenzer said Harbaugh acted as though he didn't know where the new draft policy came from when in fact he had been told about it and invited to an upcoming meeting to discuss it. Muenzer acknowledged that the draft policy had been constructed without Senate input, but said the document was very preliminary and intended as a basis for discussion. She said it's always hard to decide whether to begin such efforts by calling together a group of stakeholders and asking what is needed or to draft something as a way to help structure the discussion. Muenzer emphasized that there was no "mal-intent" involved in constructing the draft policy first. She said the administration needs the help of the Senate and has been pleased with all that they have jointly been able to accomplish this academic year.

Bill Harbaugh said that he only learned about the effort to revise the university's conflict of interest policy through United Academics, the faculty union. He asked why the administration had not talked to the Senate leadership early in the process. He also asked if the administration agreed with his assessment that this is an academic matter that requires Senate approval. Muenzer said it was too early to make that determination. Harbaugh stated that the Senate has in the past been directly involved in developing conflict of interest policy and that he had sent Muenzer documentation describing that involvement. Harbaugh said he didn't understand why there was uncertainty about this being an academic matter. Muenzer said the policy is not in its final form yet, so it is difficult to say whether the Senate needs to be involved. She noted that President Schill and Provost Banavar have taken the position that if a policy affects faculty differently than other campus constituencies, then the policy needs to go through the Senate. If it has the same effect on all constituencies, then Senate review would not be required.

John Bonine said there will be a different impact on faculty, because service is part of their job requirements. He also noted that there is a difference between conflicts of interest, which he described as largely financial, and conflicts of commitment, which cover things like the one day in seven policy. Bonine urged the administration not to conflate the two. Greg Bryant pointed out that the Senate includes more than just faculty and urged the administration to seek Senate approval of any policy change. Cheryl Ernst noted that as an Officer of Administration she is expected to contribute to her field, so the conflict of interest policy impacts more than just faculty members.

4. New Business and Reports

4.1 Report: Status of Research and Innovation at the University – David Conover, Vice President for Research and Innovation

David Conover said he's been at the university for 18 months now and he's just as excited about our research prospects as when he arrived. His goal today is to highlight for senators the programs that support faculty and student research.

The VPRI Office has three major priorities, Conover said. They are helping the university compete for grants, reducing the administrative burden involved in applying for grants, and expanding the definition of research.

In terms of facilities and infrastructure, Conover pointed to recent and planned laboratory renovations, a new acquisition and replacement fund, and a new strategic management plan for core facilities. He also noted the UO's move up to 100GB high speed internet connectivity and praised the establishment of the Research Advanced Computing Services (RACS), which serves 97 groups of researchers.

Conover cited several ways in which the university has increased direct support for faculty research. He noted that start-up funding has increased 33% in the past two years, that the UO is providing Junior Faculty Research Awards of \$2,000 each, and

that the university and faculty union have made it possible for departments to create more affordable postdoc positions. He also said the UO has expanded its internal seed grant funding efforts, including a unique joint program with OHSU. In addition, Conover highlighted the expansion of his office's Faculty Research Awards program, which now provides about 20 awards a year of \$5,000 each to faculty in disciplines that have lower levels of available research funding.

The university has also expanded direct support for student research, Conover said. This includes the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) and the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowships. The UO has also put together about 50 tuition and fee packages worth \$21,000 each for graduate student researchers.

In an effort to reduce the administrative burden on those applying for grants, the VPRI Office has expanded its Research and Development Services, added a new electronic disclosure process for those with inventions, and is planning to integrate the compliance process electronically.

Conover noted that implementation of the anticipated changes in the federal Common Rule dealing with human research subjects has been postponed until July 2018, but he said the UO is ready for them. Templates have been updated, a website is ready to launch, and office hours for those providing support to researchers will be expanded.

Finally, Conover said the university is committed to increasing its recognition of and advocacy for UO research activities. These efforts include forming a UO chapter of the National Academy of Inventors and expanding science communications to the public through UO Communications, the science literacy program, Quack Chats, and faculty op-ed submissions. As always, Conover said his office works closely with the university's Government Relations staff to monitor federal research funding.

Chris Phillips asked who is getting the NSF Graduate Research Fellowships. Conover said about half are students coming here to do their research and about half are UO graduates going elsewhere to conduct research. These are significant awards, Conover noted, involving \$35,000 a year for up to three years. Jack Boss asked about the availability of research funding for faculty in music and dance, the humanities, and social sciences. Conover said his office sends out a weekly newsletter listing available funding and is glad to provide counseling on grant applications to anyone. Chris Murray thanked Conover for making their grant announcements much more comprehensive than they were in the past.

4.2 Discussion: US 17/18-17: "Learning Goals for Methods of Inquiry" – Chris Sinclair, Chair of the Core Education Task Force

President Sinclair gave the gavel to Vice President Harbaugh to conduct the discussion on this motion. Formal introduction of the motion and a vote on it will occur at the April 25th Senate meeting. Sinclair then read through the motion.

Chris Phillips suggested that the Methods of Inquiry listed in the motion didn't cover all the methods mentioned in the UO Mission statement, especially logical thinking and effective reasoning. Chris Murray, Greg Bryant, and Sinclair felt those methods were sufficiently present in the critical thinking method of inquiry. Colin Koopman noted that another criterion could be added to the critical thinking method of inquiry to more fully include logical thinking. He also suggested several grammatical and stylistic changes to the ethical reflection method of inquiry.

John Bonine suggested that the Resolveds be modified, so that the criteria contained in each Method of Inquiry are explicitly adopted by the Senate. Harbaugh said the motion would be revised based on the suggestions received and be back in two weeks for a vote.

4.3 Discussion and Vote: US 17/18-15: "Revisions on Criteria for Receiving Departmental Honors" – Frances White, Chair of Academic Council

Sinclair noted that Frances White is not available today, but Scott Pratt is here and can answer any questions senators may have. He said the motion is before the Senate and does not need a second, because it comes from the Academic Council. Sinclair reviewed the major elements of the motion and noted that several revisions had been made based on previous discussions in the Senate. There was no discussion.

Vote on motion to revise the criteria for departmental honors: 39 – Yes. 0 – No. Moved and carried.

5. Open Discussion: None

6. Reports: None

7. Notice(s) of Motion:

Lee Rumbarger will be presenting a motion regarding changes in the university's multicultural requirement on behalf of the Multicultural Requirement Task Force.

Bill Harbaugh will be presenting a motion regarding changes to the Faculty Research Awards Committee on behalf of the Committee on Committees.

8. Other Business: None

9. Adjournment: 4:40 pm

Attendance:

University Senate Members – 2017-18				Date: April 11, 2018			
Senators	Pres	Abs	Exc	Senators	Pres	Abs	Exc
CAS – Natural Sciences				School of Music and Dance			
Elliot Berkman	X			Jack Boss	X		
Ilya Bindeman			X	Toby Koenigsberg	X		
Hans Dreyer			X				
Jennifer Freyd			X	Clark Honors College			
Tom Greenbowe	X			Monique Balbuena	X		
Anthony Hornof		X					
Huaxin Lin(Yifeng Shen)			X	Other Academic Units			
Christopher Minson	X			Edward Davis		X	
N. Christopher Phillips	X						
				Librarians			
CAS – Social Sciences				Elizabeth Peterson	X		
Bill Harbaugh (Vice Pres.)	X			Lori Robare	X		
Katie Meehan			X				
Madonna Moss			X	Officers of Administration			
Eileen Otis	X			Cheryl Ernst	X		
Mike Urbancic	X			Keith Frazee (C. Bennett)			X
				Marcus Langford	X		
CAS – Humanities							
Lowell Bowditch			X	Students			
Cristina Calhoon	X			Luci Charlton/M. Zaidan-New	X		
Pedro Garcia-Caro			X	Cali Hodge/S. Northfield-New	X		
Alison Groppe(Jing-Schmidt)			X	Arian Mobasser	X		
Colin Koopman	X			Alexandra Pear/J. Bond-New	X		
Mark Whalan	X			Keegan Williams-Thomas	X		
Alejandro Vallega		X					
David Wacks	X			Classified Staff			
				Theodora KoThompson	X		
College of Design				Terry McQuilkin	X		
Liska Chan		X		Valerie Mickelson (J. Butler)			X
Laura Leete	X						
Richard Margerum	X			Career NTF Research			
Sylvan Lionni	X			Greg Bryant	X		
College of Education				Academic Council Chair			
Beth Harn	X			Frances White			X
Christopher Murray	X						
John Seeley	X			Ex-Officio			
				Chris Sinclair, Vice President	X		
Journalism and Comm.				Michael Schill, UO President		X	
Christopher Chavez	X			Jayanth Banavar, UO Provost	X		
				Amy Schenk, ASUO President		X	

School of Law				Angela Wilhelms, St.Fac.Ex.Crd		X	
Susan Gary	X			Jessica Carlson, Parliamen.	X		
				Betina Lynn, Sen. Exec. Coord.	X		
College of Business				Kurt Willcox, Sen. Prog. Asst.	X		
Jennifer Ellis (R. Clement)			X				
Ali Emami		X					

Guests: Hannah Kanik, Scott Pratt, Kevin Reed, Melanie Muenzer, David Cecil, Melina Pastos, Leslie Leve, Cassandra Moseley, Sheryl Johnson, Dave Landrum, David Conover, Charles Williams, Aviva Kaye-Diamond, and Amira Borders.