



Oregon Institute of Technology

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

AQ&SS Committee January 27, 2022

Academic Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management Update

This spring a top priority across campus is the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) seven year accreditation report due March 1, and site visit in April. With the resignation of the AVP for Academic Excellence in the fall, Vice Provost Afjeh has taken the lead in writing the report with the assistance of Janette Isaacson. Vice President Foley, Vice Provost Afjeh and Janette Isaacson are serving as leadership for the preparation of the site visit.

Updated KPI dashboards are included in Attachment A. The employee information (HR) and student to faculty ratio remain to be updated, which will be done once the official numbers are available after reporting to IPEDS in early April this year.

Data comparisons between Oregon Tech and peer institutions is included as Attachment B. This information has been collated for our NWCCU Year 7 report and is included to provide the Board of Trustees some national perspective.

Staffing

Human Resources data on Oregon Tech employee (faculty and staff) and applicant diversity are shown in Attachment C.

Academic Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management continue to be stretched with both faculty and staff resignations, resulting in numerous searches, adding significant time commitment to those involved.

Several vacant leadership positions are currently being recruited including Dean of Online Education and Global Engagement, AVP for Academic Excellence, AVP for Strategic Enrollment Management and Retention, Executive Director for Center for Excellence in Applied Computing.

Most notably our Dean for Engineering, Technology and Management (ETM), Dean Keyser has accepted a new position and has resigned with an effective last day of March 17, 2023. We will begin searching for a new Dean very shortly.

Searches for two department chairs in ETM – Management and CSET are underway. The EERE chair is also stepping down.

Last year we filled 30 faculty positions to start fall 2022 – 12 tenure track, 6 non tenure track and 12 visiting lines (currently being re-searched for permanent TT/NTT positions); some late openings were filled with visiting instructors (one year). This fall approx. 30 faculty searches are underway, 13 in ETM, 17 in HAS, including searches to replace current one year visiting instructor positions.

In strategic enrollment management there has been a substantial turnover in staff and searches are increasingly less successful; currently the Director for Academic Advising and Retention position is vacant and the first search for a replacement failed. This is a key position that will have repercussions for the institution. We are also still short on admissions counselors with five of seven positions vacant and the Institutional Research Analyst position has also failed.

According to IPEDs data (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System), fall 2021 faculty numbers at the seven Oregon universities were as follows:

(Excludes library and part time faculty)

University	All Faculty	Tenure/TenureTrack	Non-Tenure	% Tenure	Tenure:Non-Tenure
Oregon Institute of Technology	151	126	25	83.4%	5.04
Eastern Oregon University	111	80	31	72.1%	2.58
Oregon State University	1391	789	460	63.2%	1.72
Portland State University	725	489	236	67.4%	2.07
Southern Oregon University	137	113	24	82.5%	4.71
University of Oregon	946	724	222	76.5%	3.26
Western Oregon University	243	144	99	59.3%	1.45
GROUP AVERAGE	509	352	157	69.2%	2.25

New and Developing Academic Programs (to be discussed as a separate agenda item)

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) has approved the Geomatics Program (GIS and Surveying) being offered in online modality in addition to the current in-person program.

The Medical Laboratory Science program is planning to start an online completion program. This also requires no external state approval process as we have an existing program but we are requesting approval from NWCCU for the online modality.

Based on recent leadership conversations between OT and Rogue Community College regarding increasing collaborations, early notice for our three MMET degrees and a CSET degree will be submitted to Statewide Provost Council (SPC) for new location approval (Medford). These degree completion programs will provide Rogue Valley students the opportunity to complete a four year degree in these programs. Once early notice has been submitted, the new location proposals will be brought to the board for approval prior to submitting to SPC for HECC approval. The degrees are BS Manufacturing Engineering Technology, BS Mechanical Engineering, BS Mechanical Engineering Technology and BS Computer Software Engineering Technology.

A MS Mechanical Engineering program has been developed by the MMET department and they have initiated the internal approval process.

The MS Natural Resources and MS Bio-health Science degrees to be housed in Natural Sciences are moving through the Graduate Council approval process and should be ready for Board approval at the next meeting.

A Graduate Certificate in Population Health Innovation is under review.

Dental Therapy is still at discussion stage.

Accreditation updates

ETM Programs

Geomatics Program

Completed Accreditation in Summer of 2019. No non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-ANSIS. Next Review Fall of 2024.

Electrical Engineering Technology Program

Completed Accreditation in Summer of 2021. No non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-ETAC. Next Review Fall of 2026.

Software, Computer and Embedded Systems Engineering Technology Programs

Site visit Winter of 2021. Several non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-ETAC. Findings were addressed and non-compliant findings removed Fall 2022. Next Review Fall of 2026.

Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Technology Programs

Site visit Winter of 2021. Several non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-ETAC. Findings were addressed and non-compliant findings removed Fall 2022. Next Review Fall of 2026.

Business Management Department

Completed Accreditation in Spring of 2021. No findings discovered by International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE). Next review 2027.

Civil Engineering Program

Completed Accreditation in Summer of 2022. No non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-EAC. Next Review Fall of 2027.

Electrical Engineering Program

Site visit Fall of 2022. Several non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-EAC. Findings were addressed, waiting for response from ABET. Program continues to be accredited.

Mechanical Engineering Program

Site visit Fall of 2022. Several non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-EAC. Findings were addressed, waiting for response from ABET. Program continues to be accredited. MS

Renewable Energy Engineering Program

Site visit Fall of 2022. Several non-compliant findings ('weaknesses or deficiencies') ABET-EAC. Findings were addressed, waiting for response from ABET. Program continues to be accredited.

HAS programs

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Candidacy status is in progress with the Summary of Action response due to CAPTE in March to provide more detail, and an oral hearing to the Commissioners to be held in April. OHSU is working collaboratively with OT on this work.

New and Ongoing Initiatives

The Academic Master Plan will be presented separately. It is posted on the Provost site and an open forum was held at the end of November to discuss initial implementation steps.

The \$5.5 million funds allocated by the legislature are being used for several purposes, following the purposes stated in the bill. For the expansion of rural health initiative, funds are being expended to support the developing DPT program and infrastructure, and a camera was purchased for Medical Imaging Technology, with the understanding that this program will be planning for growth in enrollment. Funds will also be used for the relocation and likely renovations costs for the ABA clinic. The Center of Excellence in Applied Computing funds have been used to build out cybersecurity equipment on both campuses. It will also be used to fund the executive director salary and their needs once hired, to develop the center.

Industry Partnerships

The Boeing Company (Boeing Commercial Airplanes) and Oregon Tech collaboration is progressing well with the establishment of a Collaboration Lab in the CEET building at Oregon Tech's Klamath Falls campus, providing a secure environment for Oregon Tech students completing projects for Boeing. The first project is scheduled to begin this spring.

Academic Facilities

Boivin Hall renovations are on track for fall re-opening and Dean Peterson is coordinating furniture and fittings purchases with a group of stakeholders (faculty and staff).

Additional space in the basement of the Dow building is being renovated for NSF funded DPT faculty research.

The Behavior Improvement Group Applied Behavioral Analysis (**BIG ABA**) **Clinic** lease was not renewed last spring and since then, despite many efforts, a new location has not been identified. They are currently housed with the Foundation office but this space does not allow for full clinic operations. Finding an appropriate location is a high priority for OT and for the Klamath Falls community that the clinic serves.

College News

Engineering, Technology and Management

OREC at Oregon Tech Named as Semifinalist in the American-Made Solar Prize

OREC entered the competition with the CRACK CATCHER AI (artificial intelligence), a system of lasers and artificial intelligence to assess mechanical stress on PV (photovoltaic) cells inside solar modules, sensing and predicting fracturing in high volume PV manufacturing.

Representing Oregon Tech are OREC Director and Assistant Professor Arief Suriadi Budiman, Ph.D., as the Main Principal Investigator (PI); Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering Technology Instructor Derrick Speaks, Ph.D.; and Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering Technology Professor Tim Pasang, Ph.D.

“To enable more solar manufacturing in the United States, CRACK CATCHER AI enables smarter, more innovative way to sense and predict cracks in silicon solar cells using scientific principles, which has not been possible hitherto and will then lead to higher manufacturing yield as well as quality, and secure U.S. competitiveness in solar PV manufacturing worldwide,” PI Budiman said.

Publications:

Dr. Tim Pasang -

‘Tribological Characterization of Alumina Ceramic Manufactured by Solvent-Based Slurry Stereolithography’, *Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance*, December 2022.

‘Additive manufacturing of titanium alloys – Enabling re-manufacturing of aerospace and biomedical components’, *Microelectronic Engineering*, December 2022.

Dr. Jintai Wang -

‘Performance evaluation of high energy dynamic compaction on soil-rock mixture geomaterials based on field test’, *Case Studies in Construction Materials*, December 2022.

Health, Arts and Sciences

Publications:

Amber Lancaster -

Lancaster, A. (November 2022). Localized Usability and Agency in Design: Whose Voice Are We Advocating. *Technical Communication*, 69, (4). Co-author/editor

Kyle Chapman -

Chapman KA, Machado SS, van der Merwe K, Bryson A, Smith D. (2022). Exploring Primary Care Non-Attendance: A Study of Low-Income Patients. *Journal of Primary Care & Community Health*.

Ryan Madden -

Madden, R. (October 2022). Does Citizenship Matter? The Case of the Aleut Relocation During the Second World War in Alaska. *Journal of Migration History*, 8, (3).

Robyn Wilde & Myranda Selvage (OT student) –

Wilde, R.S., Selvage, M.K. & Fabrikant, I.I. (September 2022). Positronium Collisions with Polar Molecules. *Physical Review A*. 106, (3).

Presentations and Invited Talks:

Jesse Kinder. (January 2023). Epidemic Modeling: Computational Physics in Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research. *American Association of Physics Teachers National Meeting*. Portland, OR.

Chapman, Kyle. (2022). Oregon Tech's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on the Environment and Health. *Pacific Ecological Systems Division of the EPA*.

Sophie Nathenson (2022). "Non Pharmacological Approaches to Managing and Preventing Chronic Illness" at the Association for Rehabilitation Nurses virtual conference.

Leadership:

Dawn Bailey, Ph.D., has been named the 2022 president-elect of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA), an international organization that supports the needs and interests of behavior analytic practitioners.

Andrea McCracken was appointed to the Western States Communication Association (WSCA) Executive Director Search Committee.

Students and Programs:

Two MLS Students (Valentina Cingel and Rosey Le) awarded two of only 18 National ASCLS Alpha Mu Tau Scholarships in 2022.

The DMS program - EduMed.org #5 ranking in Top Online Sonography & Ultrasound Tech Schools. The program is in the top 10 currently ranked number #8 in the nation of Best 15 Ultrasound Tech Schools in 2022.

Office of Honors Program and National Scholarships

Director Dr. Christopher Syrnyk has been elected to the Board of Directors for the National Collegiate Honors Council. On October 25th, the national Phi Kappa Phi Chapter Development Committee recommended OT institution be advanced to the next step in the new chapter petitioning process. Honors program enrollment is 8% higher this year than last year, and continues to include a diverse group of students based on ethnicity and degree.

Registrar's Office

The Registrar continues to be heavily involved in the HECC Transfer Council common course numbering initiative. This will significantly impact our lower division courses, particularly in general education, providing students with a more seamless transfer of these courses. The first round of courses have been approved by the Transfer Council and will be modified in our catalog. The Faculty Senate recommendation regarding the automatic waitlist are being incorporated into scheduling and should be in place for fall 2023. Also based on the recommendation voted on by Faculty Senate the summer schedule will be adjusted to 10 weeks with a 5 week option.

STRATEGIC ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT – key accomplishments

Financial Aid

The Financial Aid office is operating smoothly. A new initiative to package and send financial aid information for prospective students much earlier, as a recruitment tool has been initiated; this will entail a second round of information to be sent out later in the process, significantly increasing workload, but hopefully improving enrollment for fall.

Educational partnerships and outreach (EPO).

The expansion of MESA to the Klamath County area is progressing well. Dual credit enrollment has increased both for the fall and winter quarters. The Assistant Director at Klamath Falls resigned and the first search to fill the position failed.

Advising and retention

Academic advising and retention working closely with faculty were able to retain 92% of the incoming fall 2022 students for the winter term (90.5% freshmen, 94.7% transfer students). They will now be reaching out to students who did not continue from last spring 2022 to fall 2022 to identify reasons and encourage students to register for spring or next fall. The retirement of the Director for the Academic Advising and Retention Office in December will be a challenge in developing new initiatives. The first search to fill the position failed. The new advising software “Inspire” is being implemented across campus in phases. The academic advisors are using it and faculty are being trained in using it effectively.

Admissions

Enrollment data is included in the full board packet and will be discussed in the strategic enrollment management report. The impact of the community college enrollment drop continues to create uncertainty but early data indicates strong interest by potential freshmen for fall 2023.