

Office of the Faculty Senate, OAA
 Portland State University
 P.O. Box 751
 Portland, OR 97207



To: Susan Jeffords, Provost
 From: Portland State University Faculty Senate
 (Vicki Reitenauer, Presiding Officer; Richard Beyler, Secretary)
 Date: 6 June 2022
 Re: Summary of Senate Actions

At the supplementary meeting on 13 June 2022 (held as an on-line conference), Faculty Senate **voted to approve** a resolution on foregrounding the APRCA Guiding Principles and Priorities for Program Review / Reduction Process, **as amended** from the version stated in Attachment D.1 to the June 13th Agenda. The final text of the resolution as amended and approved is [posted to the Faculty Senate website](#).

06-21-2022—OAA concurs with the resolution in ways stated below.

The resolution as amended endorses the Guiding Principles and Priorities put forward by the Academic Program Reduction and Curricular Adjustment committee. I concur with and second this endorsement. The Guiding Principles and Priorities have provided important guidance throughout the PRRP process, and I remain grateful to the APRCA committee for their wisdom and commitment. The resolution asks that OAA provide a written response for how those Principles and Priorities will be upheld during Phase III of the PRRP. I am pleased to concur with this and to share broadly the ways in which the PRRP has been guided by the APRCA Guiding Principles and Priorities. The resolution asks that I pause the PRRP until APRCA-AHA and the Faculty Senate Steering Committee have reviewed and then the Faculty Senate approves the plan for upholding the Principles and Guidelines.

I do not concur with the section of the resolution that refers to pausing the PRRP process. Faculty feedback from some of these units indicates that the request to “pause” the PRRP has led to some confusion. I received a number of questions from faculty including:

- Does the pause mean that work should be halted by units that have begun to move forward with outcomes of their Phase II reports?
- Will ReImagine funding provided for this work be withdrawn during the pause?
- Does the pause mean that no work relating to Phase II or Phase III can be done until after the Faculty Senate review?

Several of the units that were asked to develop plans for Phase III planned to begin that work in the summer, funded through ReImagine grants that were committed to them by OAA. In at least one case, summer is the only time during which that work could be done. In addition, units had already reached out to OAA and their respective deans to gather information relevant to the development of their plans. In addressing these questions, I am guided by Presiding Officer Reitenauer’s clarification during the Faculty Senate meeting that it is not the intention of the resolution to prevent colleagues from undertaking planning work in a timeline chosen by the unit. Let me state clearly that no decisions have been made about the outcomes of Phase III, and no decisions will be made until the unit reports have been received and reviewed and discussions with the units have taken place.

Consequently, I will take the following steps:

- In an effort to support my continued commitment to transparency (APRCA Guiding Principle #7), OAA will update the PRRP website, including a list of [FAQs that address questions that arose during the Faculty Senate meeting](#).
- In response to the concerns about the timeline expressed during the Faculty Senate meeting, I have extended the deadline for submission of the Phase III plans to January 15. This change reflects my continued practice of giving full consideration to feedback from APRCA and the Faculty Senate (APRCA Guiding Principle #5).
- In support of ongoing unit efforts and to respect the considerable work undertaken by faculty, activities that resulted from Phase II reports should continue.
- As a result of the extended deadline, and per the request of some of the units, work to develop Phase III plans can take place during summer or fall.
- ReImagine funds that were committed to units remain available to them for utilization during summer or fall (APRCA Guiding Principle #6).
- Because Phase III plans will be reviewed individually with *no set target or predetermined outcome*, plans may be submitted to the deans and provost at any time prior to January 15.

I value the ongoing engagement with the Faculty Senate as we move forward through the PRRP, particularly with the APRCA committee. These are difficult conversations to have, but they are critical to our ongoing ability to achieve our goal of Closing the Gap in OAA. I look forward to continuing to engage with the Faculty Senate as we work to achieve these goals.

Best regards,



Vicki Reitenauer
Presiding Officer



Richard H. Beyler
Secretary to the Faculty



Susan Jettords, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs