RESOLUTION CONCERNING REAFFIRMATION OF
THE UNIVERSITY MISSION AND ACCREDITATION CORE THEMES

Approved by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee
June 4, 2014

Approved by the Board
June 26, 2014

BACKGROUND

A. The Board of Trustees assumes full governing authority for Portland State University, effective July 1, 2014. The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCUU), Portland State’s accrediting body, requires the institution’s governing body to approve the institutional Mission and Core Themes. Therefore, reaffirmation of Portland State’s Mission and Core Themes, as formerly approved by the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, is required of the new Board of Trustees prior to July 1, 2014.

B. In NWCUU’s Accreditation Handbook Standard One, institutions are required to articulate their mission statements and core themes and receive their governing board’s approval. As defined by NWCUU, the mission addresses institutional purpose and the core themes comprise essential elements of that mission. To remain in compliance with NWCUU, both the mission and core themes must be endorsed by an institution’s governing body.

C. Portland State’s Mission was approved by the Oregon State Board of Higher Education (OSBHE) in 1997; the core themes, first used in PSU’s 2011 Year One report to the NWCUU, were retroactively approved by the OSBHE, along with the core themes of all the OUS institutions.

Portland State’s 1997 approved Mission states:

The mission of Portland State University is to enhance the intellectual, social, cultural, and economic qualities of urban life by providing access throughout the life span to a quality liberal education for undergraduates and an appropriate array of professional and graduate programs especially relevant to metropolitan areas. The University conducts research and service that support a high quality educational environment and reflect issues important to the region. It actively promotes the development of a network of educational institutions to serve the community.

Portland State’s 2012 approved Core Themes are:

1. Community Engagement and Civic Leadership
2. Student Success
3. Innovative Research and Scholarship
4. Educational Opportunity

D. The Portland State administration recommends reaffirmation of the Mission and Core Themes for all purposes, including that of meeting the NWCUU Standard One. Portland State is in its 4th year of a seven-year reporting cycle with NWCUU. The Mission and Core Themes, including the articulation of objectives and indicators for each Core Theme, have provided the framework for
reports to NWCCU in the last three years. Reaffirmation will provide continuity for this accreditation cycle. We recognize that as the Board of Trustees and the University begin to engage in institutional planning discussions, changes to the Mission and/or the Core Themes may result in the future.

RESOLUTION

Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees, that the institutional Mission and accreditation Core Themes are reaffirmed. This resolution supersedes the following OUS IMD: OUS IMD 2.010 Missions of System Institutions.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 26, 2014

[Signature]
Secretary to the Board