RESOLUTION CONCERNING AUTHORITY FOR
ACADEMIC PROGRAM APPROVAL

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 PSU effective July 1, 2014. The Oregon State Board of Higher Education (OSBHE), through its delegation to the OUS Academic Strategies Committee, currently has approval for three categories of academic programs: bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs. Therefore, authority for such program approvals is now vested in the new Board of Trustees as of July 1, 2014. In addition, approval of the Higher Education Coordinating Commissions is necessary for significant changes to the academic program of the university and for the establishment of new degrees.

B. Curriculum and program review and approval on campus is a basic function of “shared governance” in which faculty and administration share responsibility. Each program proposal undergoes a number of review steps before the Faculty Senate seeks program approval from the provost. The provost then seeks approval from the governing body. (See Exhibit A for the current levels of review and approval by PSU entities and OUS.)

C. The Portland State administration recommends that the Board of Trustees adopt a model of program review similar to the one established by the OSBHE in which the provost, acting through the “shared governance” process, forwards programs to the new PSU governing body—the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees delegates authority for program approval to the Academic & Student Affairs Committee. This adopted process would ensure continuity and timeliness of the current flow of academic programs and allow the Board of Trustees to exercise appropriate overview and approval without overburdening the docket of the full Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION

Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees that the review and approval of the bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs be delegated to the Academic & Student Affairs Committee. The Board directs the ASAC to be guided by the template and criteria currently used and adopted by the SBHE Academic Strategies Committee and by any changes or new criteria that may be adopted by the HECC. Each of the ASAC’s program proposal actions shall be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for informational purposes at the next following Board meeting.

This Resolution supersedes the following OUS policies and IMD’s:

1. OUS Policy: New Graduate Programs, External Review Policy
2. OUS Policy: New Instructional Programs, Guidelines For Review of Proposal For The Initiation of A New Instructional Program
3. OUS Policy: New Instructional Programs, Follow-Up Review of External Review
4. OUS IMD 2.015: Approval of New Academic Programs
5. OUS Policy: Academic Degree Program Planning and Implementation Program Development Review
6. OUS Policy: Categories of Instruction, Implementation of Board Policies
7. OUS Policy: Centers And Institutes In OUS

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 26, 2014

[Signature]
Secretary to the Board