MEETING NOTES

Committee members present: Chair Margaret Kirkpatrick, Vice Chair Swati Adarkar, Maude Hines, Maria Carolina Gonzalez-Prats, Pete Nickerson, Wim Wiewel (ex-officio, non-voting), John Fraire (ex-officio, non-voting) and Sona Andrews (ex-officio, non-voting)

Committee members not present: Sho Dozono

Committee staff present: David Reese, Shelley Winn and Donna Bergh

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL/DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Margaret Kirkpatrick, Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC), called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. David Reese, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, declared a quorum was present. The meeting was convened. New member, John Fraire, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs, was welcomed.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Action: Nickerson moved that the committee approve the minutes from the February 2-13-15 ASAC meeting. Gonzalez-Prats seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

3. COLLEGE COST AND AFFORDABILITY—DISCUSSION

Vice President John Fraire, after a short self-introduction, presented a summary of total student costs associated with completing a bachelor’s degree, including tuition, fees, books, housing and food. He described the long trend of tuition becoming a larger and larger share of the total revenue at public universities across the country. Fraire included information about financial aid and reported that the average debt of PSU baccalaureate student graduates is about $25,300, slightly less than the average debt statewide. The number of scholarships and graduate assistantships is very low in comparison to need and other campuses. Fraire would like to do more in the area of developing student financial literacy. Provost Sona Andrews discussed some of the strategies being employed to contain or lower costs. The strategies include efforts through nTHINK PSU, including 4 year graduation guarantee, reducing time-to-degree; decreasing student costs through open textbooks; credit for prior learning; and offering flexible degrees. More than 1700 students have regular wage campus jobs, 380 have federal workstudy jobs and almost 800 students have graduate assistantships.

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Eric Noll, ASPSU President, commented positively on the work co-sponsored by ASPSU to reduce textbook costs. He also offered his support to Vice President Fraire. No other public comment was received.

4. **Achievement Compacts and HECC Evaluation—Discussion**

The PSU Achievement Compact will be an action item at the May 8 meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee when Trustees will be asked for their positive recommendation to the full Board. Sona Andrews provided some history and context, including the legislation that led to the establishment of the Achievement Compacts by the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB). Compacts with K-12, community colleges and universities were established in support of 40-40-20 goals. When originally developed in 2011 by the OIEB, the compacts were to be a means for institutions to receive funding based on desired achievement goals. To date, funding has not been tied to the compacts. As a result, PSU has reported targets based on trends and no new resources. Outcome measures include completion, quality and connections metrics for Oregonians. Members reviewed the 2014-15 compact and will consider the proposed 2015-16 compact when it is shared with docket materials for the May 8 ASAC Committee meeting. The timeline for the Achievement Compact approvals includes adoption by the PSU Board of Trustees at the June 11 meeting and OEIB receipt of the proposed Compact for review, on or before June 30, and subsequent approval. Pete Nickerson expressed interest in seeing the achievement compacts of the other Oregon institutions.

Andrews also addressed the evaluation of universities by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) and the relationship to the Governing Boards. She will update members at the May 8 meeting on the details and status of the evaluation process. The goal is to have meaningful, measurable and useful goals.

In response to the invitation for public comment, Rob Fullmer, HECC member and IT Specialist for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at PSU, expressed his support for setting a more realistic path to meeting the State’s 40-40-20 goal. No other public comment was received.

5. **Update on HECC Action at the March 12 Meeting**

Kirkpatrick and Andrews led a discussion about the HECC decision and decision to approve the University of Oregon’s proposal to offer a Masters of Science in Sports Product Management program in Portland. PSU’s position is that the UO program significantly duplicates courses offered by the PSU School of Business Administration and the program should have been approved only after a formal collaborative agreement existed between PSU and UO. The HECC recommended that the two institutions make a good faith effort to collaborate on the program, but approved the program to move forward. Andrews stated her appreciation for those who spoke or wrote in support of the PSU position, mentioning Board of Trustees Chair Pete Nickerson, ASAC Chair Margaret Kirkpatrick, and board members Gale Castillo and Maria Carolina Gonzalez-Prats in particular. Andrews said that PSU was successful in establishing the need for HECC to develop clear criteria for future decisions on academic proposals.

ASPSU President Eric Nolls said that PSU should strive to prepare Portland State students to serve in more Statewide leadership roles. No other public comment was received.
6. **Next Steps and Adjournment**

Chair Kirkpatrick encouraged members to confirm their presence at the May 8 meeting when a quorum will be required to act on the 2015-16 Achievement Compact. It was confirmed that four voting members would be present. With no further comments or questions from the committee, Kirkpatrick adjourned the meeting.