Meeting #10

July 31, 2015
Gold Conference Room 541
Market Center Building
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Minutes

Board Members Present: Swati Adarkar (conference call), Erica Bestpitch (conference call), Gale Castillo (conference call), Thomas Imeson, Margaret Kirkpatrick, Irving Levin (conference call), Rick Miller (conference call), Pete Nickerson, Peter Stott (conference call), Christine Vernier, and Wim Wiewel (ex-officio).

Board Member(s) Not Present: Sho Dozono, Carolina Gonzalez-Prats, Maude Hines, Margaret Kirkpatrick, and Fariborz Maseeh.

1. Call to Order/Roll/ Declaration of Quorum

Chair Nickerson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

2. Resolution Revising 2015-16 Tuition Rates.

President Wiewel reminded the Board that on March 12, 2015, the Board considered and approved a recommendation that tuition and mandatory student fees for the 2015-16 academic year be increased. At that time, the level of support for the University from the State of Oregon for the 2015-17 biennium was unknown. The recommendation in March was based on an assumption that state funding would be at the level proposed by the co-chairs of the Legislature’s Joint Committee on Ways and Means. President Wiewel stated his intent, and the Board expressed its agreement, to bring forward a reduction of the recommended tuition increase in the event that student funding for the 2015-17 biennium is greater than the amount previously anticipated.

In June, the Legislature approved, and the Governor signed, a 2015-17 appropriation bill that provides Oregon’s seven public universities with approximately $30 million more than had been anticipated at the time that the tuition increase was considered. The Legislature expressed its expectation that these additional funds be used to address affordability and improved student retention and graduation.

The President now recommends that the Committee reduce the approved tuition increase for resident undergraduate students from a $7 per credit hour increase to a $5 per credit hour increase. This would reduce the overall increase in tuition and mandatory fees for a full-time
resident undergraduate student to approximately 3%. He does not recommend revision to the previously approved tuition rates for graduate or non-resident students or to the previously approved mandatory fees.

Reducing the tuition increase in this manner is intended to improve affordability for resident undergraduate students, maintain a balanced University budget, provide additional funding for strategic investments associated with student success, and permit for enhanced risk mitigation and reserves.

ACTION: Castillo moved that the resolution reducing tuition as proposed be approved. Vernier seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The resolution was approved.

3. Adjourn

Chair Nickerson adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.