

# Advocacy and Advisory Board – Meeting Summary

Thursday, October 17, 2019

3:00pm to 4:30pm

Tykeson Hall, Room 111

ATTENDING: AAB Members: Oran Teater (Chair), Scott Allan, David Ford, Lisa Hale, Dan Hobin, Rod Ray, Amy Tykeson, Alan Unger, Melanie Widmer, Mark Copeland

OSU-Cascades Leadership Team: Becky Johnson, Julie Gess-Newsome, Kelly Sparks, Blair Garland, Julie Hotchkiss, Kristin Steinke

EXPECTED ABSENCES: Mike Hollern, Mark Kralj, Brittany Preston, Jane Reynolds

3:00 pm to 3:10 pm      **Welcome and Introductions/Becky Johnson**

3:10 pm to 3:30 pm      Discussed Strategic Capital Development Plan released from the Higher Education Coordinating commission (HECC).

Focused discussion on the following information from the report:

“Enrollment history and future demographics do not forecast statewide capacity issues.” In other words, if you add up all the capacity and the projected growth on a statewide level, there is enough capacity for the foreseeable future.

“There is likely to be greater pressure on enrollment demand in the Central Oregon region, but satisfying that demand by expanding the OSU - Cascades campus substantially will likely come primarily from students from that area who currently elect to attend institutions elsewhere in the state. In some cases, reshuffling these students closer to home will likely exacerbate challenges facing Southern Oregon University and other regional institutions that are seeing the population of likely college students in their own surrounding counties fall off dramatically. In general, resident, on-campus enrollment growth is a zero net-sum game statewide.” They are saying that students from Central Oregon can just pick up and go to another institution, preferably one of those regionals that have been losing enrollment.

“There is a notable absence of clear, differentiated missions for Oregon’s institutions of higher education. This is particularly true of OSU - Cascades where the ambiguity about mission makes the determination of space needs particularly difficult. Is the Cascades campus an extension of OSU and its mission with the attendant needs for research space as well as instructional space, or is it a regional instructional institution (like Eastern, Southern, etc.)? For purposes of our analyses we have assumed that it is a regional teaching institution. The state has sufficient research university capacity at OSU and UO.” I will note that the OSU Provost answered this question for the consultants prior to the final report, saying that OSU-Cascades was definitely an extension of OSU and its mission, and faculty here were expected to contribute to OSU’s Research Intensive mission. Despite that, they are saying what THEY think OSU-Cascades should be, and that HECC should impose that on us. This completely ignores that each university has its own governing board that determine missions.

“The first priority of Oregon’s statewide capital plan should be to focus on the improvement and renewal of the existing capital assets. These assets, valued at \$10B and consisting of over 17M GSF, should be preserved and protected through investment.”

“Incentivize collaboration and shared or on-line programming in ways to reduce demands for new space.” I don’t understand how collaborating saves space, since the classrooms and faculty needs are the same whether the program is offered by the home institution or its collaborating partner. Unless the two institutions are close enough so that faculty and students can travel easily between them, this doesn’t save anything. On-line programming can save classroom space (the faculty still need offices), but not all students are suited to on-line education.

On a positive note, they estimate that OSU-Cascades has a deficit of 28,165 sf of academic support space, which makes our case for the Student Success Center we are trying to get funded. They estimate we have a surplus of 6,687 sf of academic space, but they were not considering the need for research space because they decided we were a “regional teaching institution.”

The result of their report is that HECC has revised the rubric for prioritizing capital projects with even more of an emphasis on capital renewal of old facilities. Since the need for capital renewal across the institutions far outweighs the amount of capital that will be available for the next decade or more, it’s going to be difficult for OSU-Cascades to get funding for expansion.

The board agreed that a formal written response is necessary as there are factual errors in the report and OSU Cascades was not offered an opportunity to review the details prior to publishing. Additionally, a public response via phone calls and letters of support should be encouraged. It is unknown when the HECC will be back in Central Oregon to respond in person. Becky is working with Jock Mills to determine the most effective course of action and will report to the board once she receives guidance.

There is no representation from Deschutes County on the HECC since Neil Bryant retired; Duncan Wyse is from Corvallis and is the closest person to this county—his term expires June 2020. Please review the list of HECC members (link below) to see if there’s anyone you can reach out to on our behalf. Jock Mills is working with Ed Ray to get a meeting with Governor Brown to discuss.

Expect to hear from Becky once she has a game plan from Jock on how to proceed.

Link to Strategic Capital Development Plan:

<https://www.oregon.gov/highered/about/Documents/Commission/FA/2019/9%20Oct%202019/2.0a%2010-year%20Strategic%20Capital%20Development%20Plan.pdf>

Link to HECC Commissioners:

<https://www.oregon.gov/highered/about/Pages/commissioners.aspx>

List of Commissioners: Ben Cannon, David Rives, Tayo Akins, Lee Ayers-Preboski, Vanessa Becker, Terry Cross, Enrique Farrera, Frank Goulard, Ramon Ramirez, Larry Roper, Sandy Rowe, Carmen Rubio, Duncan Wyse

3:30 pm to 4:00 pm      **Strategic Vision Session led by Kelly Sparks**

Kelly Sparks led an exercise that captured what we want to see come out of OSU Cascades in 2030. The majority of folks envision advances in climate change research and sustainable solutions for the world.

Next, three teams were created to brainstorm specific ways in which OSU Cascades would achieve specific goals. The teams were divided up into the following categories, “Transformative Education,” “Research, Scholarship and Innovation,” and “Visible Impact.” Each group created scenario in which an OSU Cascades graduate achieved a definable goal that related to each category. The information garnered from these discussions will be used in the scheduled Strategic Plan 4.0 working sessions.

Friday, October 25, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Research, Scholarship and Innovation (Tykeson 206)

Friday, November 8, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Visible Impact (Tykeson 111)

Friday, November 15, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Transformative Education (Tykeson 111)

4:00 pm to 4:30pm      **Outdoor Products Presentation by Dr. Geoff Raynak**

Dr. Raynak talked about the new Outdoor Products degree program. He introduced two students who chose to attend OSU Cascades specifically to earn this degree. His presentation is attached.

Attachments:

Agenda

Outdoor Products Degree Presentation