



Western Oregon University

Tuition Advisory Committee

February 23, 2017

Richard Woodcock Education Center, Pastega Conference Room

MINUTES

Present: Leo Mejia Aguilar, Ami Diaz, Sam Dunaway, Rex Fuller (President), Jason Granados, Natalie Legras, Rosita Olalde, Cynthia Oliveras, Alex Quintana, BillyAnn Stempel, Cristian Urzua, Eric Yahnke (Vice President for Finance and Administration)

VP Yahnke briefly went over the [proposal](#) that was taken to the Board of Trustees. With enrollment on a downhill trajectory and state appropriations flat, we will be seeing a significant depletion of the fund balance. The fund balance should be 10-20% of the total revenue for the year with a target of 15%, but at this rate the balance will be below 10% by 2019.

Without increased funding from the Oregon legislature, tuition will be increased to cover the difference. This increase could be 20% for the next cohort of tuition promise students, 10% for the traditional plan and 10% for non-resident tuition. VP Yahnke explained how the new model of funding is outcomes based. This allocation model puts a heavier emphasis on degrees granted.

President Fuller addressed students and emphasized the importance of retention in regards to the new allocation model. One tactic already being used is collaborating with community colleges to simplify the transfer process. For example, Clackamas Community College currently has a dual enrollment program with WOU. Endowments could also help the funding shortcomings, but those would take some time to get put into place.

President Fuller and VP Yahnke both acknowledged that student voices are what truly matter to legislators. Students can improve the likelihood of additional funding from the legislature by participating in lobby days at the capitol and writing letters to their legislators.

The next Tuition Advisory Committee meeting is March 10, 2017 at 11am in WUC Ochoco Room.