

FROM: Staci Knabe
SENT: Monday, December 08, 2014 12:11 PM
TO: Robert Kyr; 'Robert Kyr'
SUBJECT: Letter to you and the Senate from President Coltrane

President Coltrane asked that I send this to you. He would like for you to share with our Senate colleagues as soon as possible, please. Thank you, Staci

Dear President Kyr,

I want to share information about a Board of Trustees policy resolution that has generated discussion. This proposed Board action does not change or undermine the Faculty's role in the refinement or development of academic policies. The policy review process being considered:

1. Envisions the Senate taking the lead on all recommendations related to academic policies.
2. Establishes a Policy Advisory Council (PAC) that will include the Senate President and other faculty members. Potential nominees were solicited from the Senate President and from other campus constituencies at the start of fall term. This group will review and discuss recommended changes to ALL policies - not just academic policies.
3. Proposals have been discussed with Senate leadership for several months. Provost Bronet and I met with Senate leadership in October to discuss this issue in detail. At that time we identified 100 policies relating to academic matters and sent them sent to the Senate Executive Committee along with links to all 849 policies.
4. Including all of the policies inherited from the Oregon University System and the State of Oregon, the University of Oregon currently has 849 policies to review. Under our current practice, the University has revised or adopted only a few policies each year. We need a process that moves quickly and ensures that those with expertise and authority over the subject matter can shape the policies.

We want to set up a process that maximizes faculty input, especially for academic matters. The Board needs to delegate that authority to the President in order to get the process started. This Board action is a first step and I welcome your input and that of all faculty. We do need to set up a Policy Advisory Council and keep the process moving forward, but I would like to consider ways to accommodate faculty desire to be more involved in the process. I plan to attend the Senate Executive Committee meeting this afternoon to share information, answer questions and discuss related issues.

Sincerely,

Scott Coltrane

Interim President