

Governance Forum  
January 22, 2019  
Chair/Vice Chair Panel

33 participants  
(Including panelists)

Each of the seven governance councils was asked to do a self-evaluation of their accomplishments, challenges, and other highlights of their work for the past three years. Chairs and Vice Chairs presenting for each council were as follows:

College Council - Margaret Hamilton, Jessica Alvarado  
Technology Council - Bill Schuetz, Barbara Barlow-Powers  
Student Affairs Council - Kyle Schmidt, Helen Faith  
Diversity Council - Rosa Lopez  
Finance Council - Greg Holmes, Dennis Gilbert  
Facilities Council - Brian Kelly, Alen Bahret  
Learning Council - Laura Pelletier

Presenting for Faculty Council was Steve McQuiuddy.

### **College Council**

Accomplishments:

- Approved the core themes
- Reviewed the charter
- Reviewed policies and procedures
- Initiated a review of the governance system
- Reviewed the work of the Budget Development Subcommittee
- Hosted forums for campus-wide communication
- Asked each council to perform a self-assessment per the criteria in BP325
- Reviewed the governance manual to ensure the system is being followed

Adrienne Mitchell presented for the College Council Budget Development Subcommittee.

Accomplishments:

- Achieved a consensus budget in 2014
- Paradigm shift for section management
- Use of wait lists
- Implementation of the swirl model
- Reduction of budgeting for funded vacancies
- Increased campus wide awareness and transparency regarding college budgeting

Challenges have included exploring the fund structure and consistent student participation.

## **Technology Council**

Accomplishments:

- Work on strategic plan
- Review policies related to technology
- Assist the learning council to develop a technology plan
- Technology plan
- Technology survey

Strengths and weaknesses of the council system:

Strengths

- Have established processes and long term members
- Continually trying to improve
- Can get more work done through subcommittees
- Have created an outline to streamline processes

Weaknesses

- Policy revision approved by College Council
- Membership may not be the best qualified people
- More discussions than actual work
  - Have moved to subcommittee work to address this
- Consistent student participation

Keep in mind that it is easy to poke holes in the governance system and harder to propose changes that will work

## **Student Affairs Council**

Challenges:

- Turnover
- Leadership changes in student affairs
- Policies revisions
- Plan vs. other college plans
- Confused about our role - planning or advisory?

Accomplishments:

- Policy revision
- Added a member by position this year

- Review of policies and procedures
- Reviewing student travel policy.

## **Diversity Council**

### Accomplishments:

- Establishing frame work for equity lens
- Committee has been created and that work has moved out of council for implementation
- Created advisory memos for inclusive bathrooms, holidays
- Advocated for a meditation and reflection room
- Sent out a staff engagement survey
- Created a student engagement survey
- Current work plan:
  - Self-assessment
  - Policy for inclusive bathrooms for new construction
  - Looking at how we are serving immigration students
  - Working on bias response policy

### Challenges:

- No representation on College Council
- Difficult to get on agenda for College Council

### Challenges with Governance System overall:

- Getting to work with stakeholders
- How to use the system
- People have lost trust in the system
- Membership should be more inclusive in general

Lopez noted that it is easier to get involved in the Diversity Council than others; it is not just the usual makeup from each stakeholder group.

## **Finance Council**

Finance Council develops the infrastructure for long range financial planning. Expertise of council members is respected. Members participate based on expertise and perspective.

### Accomplishments:

- Reviewing literature, developing a path, taking steps, writing white paper
- Initial analysis on student FTE
- Scenario planning forums

Challenges:

- Attendance was a challenge last year
- Currently attempting to recoup lost momentum

### **Facilities Council**

Facilities Council has a different perspective than other councils as it deals with the education foundation and works with all areas of the college. The council works with scheduling and ensuring a safe environment for events – athletic, academic, community, etc. – and therefore needs to understand construction and other factors that affect the campus. The council works closely with architects, designers, master planners, and Public Safety.

Accomplishments:

- Reviewing policies relating to facilities and considering how those affect other areas
- Completed bond projects and working with bond project subcommittees
- Work closely with the safety committee, transportation, sustainability, and Emergency Response Team (ERT)
- Strategic conversations:
  - City of Eugene
  - Forestry
  - LTD
- Review remodel and renovation plans

Upcoming tasks include:

- Update transportation plan
- Feedback to ERT on their plan
- Integrating master plan with future construction
- Review building naming policy

### **Learning Council**

The purpose of the Learning Council is to develop, review, and evaluate plans and set directions for the instructional and learning support areas of the college in accordance with the vision, mission, core values, learning principles, and strategic plan of the college. The council formulates policies regarding college wide instruction and alignment with accreditation standards.

Challenges:

- High membership turnover this year
- Lack of understanding of council roles

- Barriers to collaboration within and across councils
- Focus on learning plan but then was moved from learning council purview, left us wondering about our role
- Some policies have changed to procedures so out of our review process.
- Snag with accreditation standards 2 and 4
- Need support – such as reassignment, etc. – for members, especially chair

Learning Council has had reasonably consistent student engagement but needs more commitment from faculty and other members.

### **Faculty Council**

The role of Faculty Council is bargained in the faculty contract. It is outside of the official governance system but intersects on many levels.

Currently, participation is robust and there is strong active membership. Open discussions make for trust and communication is a common theme of the council. Current work includes no credit grade option.

A good way to reach faculty is through Faculty Council

### **Q&A**

Q: Why was Faculty Council written outside of governance system?

A: Faculty Council predates the governance system. There is no responsible administrator; however, the vice president of academic and student affairs typically attends.

Q: What gaps or redundancies do people feel are in the current system?

A: Priorities are unclear.

- Collaboration with other councils is missing.
- Work in one council sometimes conflicts with that of other councils.
- Chair/Vice Chair meetings are scheduled for once a term this year, but only one was held last year.
- Councils have no direct representation on College Council.
- It is not College Council's job to redo the work other councils submit.
- Diversity Team (which existed prior to the current governance system) members did not move to Diversity Council.
- There are currently no black people on Diversity Council.