

Academic Affairs Meeting Minutes

Date: 02/16/2026, Monday 3:30p-4:30

Location: MET 208

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| <p><u>Voting Members:</u> <i>Chair</i> <i>VPAA</i> <i>Faculty Senate Rep</i> <i>Faculty Rep at Large</i> <i>Faculty Transfer</i> <i>Faculty Transfer</i> <i>Faculty CTE</i> <i>Classified Rep</i></p> | <p><u>Present</u> Breah Bollom Annemarie Hamlin Tes Schaeffer Josh Evans Christopher Hazlett Rebecca Franklin Sub Venus Nguyen Jen Chance</p> | <p><u>Absent (voting members):</u> Fleur Prade <i>Out for Winter Term</i></p> |
| <p><u>Non-voting Members:</u> <i>Dean of Enrollment</i> <i>Management & Registrar</i> <i>Assessment & Curriculum</i> <i>Administrator</i> <i>Faculty Forum Exec</i> <i>CTE Council Rep</i> <i>Chair-Moot Rep</i> <i>Committee Specialist</i></p> | <p><u>Present</u> Tyler Hayes Gabrielle Orsi Sara Henson Venus Nguyen Josh Evans Jennifer Beltis</p> | <p><u>Absent (non-voting members):</u> N/A <u>Guests:</u> Evan Palmer - ASCOCC Krista Leaders Angie Anderson May Alicia Moore Christy Walker Tony Russell Helen Wiersma-Koch Cindy Lenhart Michael LaLonde</p> |

Meeting began @ 3:30

(Note: **Approvals and Action items written in red.**)

Unfinished Business:

- A. Review Academic Affairs Committee Minutes from 02/02/26

Annemarie Hamlin moved to approve; Tes Schaeffer seconded – Motion Approved with revision.

Old Business: n/a

New Business:

- A. Information Items:

- Alicia Moore / Christy Walker - GPM Proposal on Immigration
 - Talked about the current language mentioning several outdated areas. The recommendation is to postpone consideration of a draft immigration policy until receiving legislative guidance, as legal review was needed for several elements.



- Annemarie Hamlin / Tyler Hayes – Exploratory Degrees and Pathways
 - Discussed the implementation of exploratory degrees within one of eight education pathways at COCC, aiming to guide students more efficiently toward a specific degree or certificate goal and to meet that goal within the time frame designated
 - Tyler explained how students will be directed between AAOT and AGS degrees through more intentional advising, with changes processed either in admissions or CAP
- Breah and committee reviewed 2024-25 Year End Summary by Monty Cheney – Consisting of AAC needs, challenges and accomplishments
 - Some accomplishments are: including new programs, an academic freedom statement, new focus award and sustainability initiatives.
- Venus asked to review the Curriculum Committee notes at the next AAC meeting on 3/2.

B. Action Items: Annemarie Course Fee Pilot: Fees

- Reviewing Fees requested, Current fees and Fee justification for 5 disciplines
 - Science Labs in-person only: current \$12, proposed \$35, future about \$5 increase a year until the \$50 fee is reached.
 - Art classes: proposed at \$60 slightly higher than current fee.
 - Nursing proposing two fee increases: 1. \$127 student success bundle; increases next year as exact cost to exact cost. 2. M&S, cost of staff etc. Proposed: \$1,134 per student; Ramping up over time: first year 54% of the cost, second year 70% of the cost, third year 100% of the cost, hoping to become more aligned with other community colleges in Oregon in the next four years.
 - Manufacturing proposing two fee increases: 1. \$125 for a couple course that had no course fees. 2. \$150 per course that will increase over time across several Manufacturing and Welding courses.
 - Culinary: Proposed \$185 per credit. Only about a dollar off of the actual cost.
 - All disciplines are increasing fees over time so not such a big shock to students. Some disciplines already have a large price that is acknowledged when the student sign up for the program. Others are not program specific so need to increase over time, or have other colleges to choose from so we need to stay competitive to keep students.

Christopher Hazlet moved to approve first reading; Jen Chance seconded; Josh Evans Abstained - **Motion Approved**

C. Other Items:

- Review grading policy; Is there a consistent grading scale? Do we need one?
 - There was a task force about 10 years ago but no standard grading scale was decided on.
 - Discussion around all the different grading scales used across campus departments and different grading scales within disciplines themselves.
 - Was mentioned that a standardized system could become a cascading microscopic view of everybody's pedagogy and their systems which could be unsustainable and potentially be intrusive at the academic freedom level.

D. Future Items:

Tess Shaffer moved to adjourn; Christopher Hazlett seconded - Motion Approved

The meeting adjourned at 4:33p.

Next Meeting: March 2, 2026 at 3:30 – 4:30, MET 208