



Summary

The Policy Advisory Council (PAC) is a cross-functional group of faculty, students and staff convened by the President and charged with advising on university-wide policy development, review, and revision. The Council has primary responsibility for promoting a consultative policy development process and establishing related timelines. The PAC is given this charge at a critical juncture in the University's history, as university governance transitions from a state system of higher education to an institutional Board of Trustees.

Statement of Need

On July 1, 2014, the Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon assumed governing authority from the State Board of Higher Education. The effecting legislation, Senate Bill 270 (2013), transferred all "rules and policies" in effect at the time of the governance transition to University of Oregon control. These policies and procedures remain effective "until lawfully superseded or repealed." As a result, the University of Oregon inherited management of a series of former Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs), Board of Higher Education policies, and Oregon University System policies and internal management procedures. Many of these inherited policies and procedures are inapplicable, duplicative, or unnecessary under the new institutional governance model. Moreover, they are not organized in a consistent classification system or presented in a common format making policy awareness and compliance challenging.

The governance transition provides a unique opportunity to engage in a comprehensive review of UO policies and to improve processes for organizing and updating university-wide policies going forward. This work is imperative to the effective and transparent operations of the University.

Membership

The PAC consists of faculty, students and staff, nominated through a consultative process and appointed by the President. The Council is convened and co-chaired by a faculty member and a staff member, also appointed by the President. Members serve at the pleasure of the President and President's Office staff provide administrative support to the Council.

Responsibilities

In accordance with all applicable statutes, the Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon has ultimate authority over University of Oregon policies. Through the *Policy on Retention and Delegation of Authority*, the Board delegates its authority to the President to execute all policies not clearly retained by the Board.

The PAC serves as an advisory council to the President and bears primary responsibility to:

- Prioritize policies for review in cooperation with the responsible executive office;
- Receive suggestions for new policy development;
- Provide the President with feedback on proposed policies;
- Establish timelines for policy development, review, and revision;
- Ensure that policies are developed, reviewed, and revised through a consultative process, including public comment; and
- Promote policy implementation and compliance through education and regular review.