Dear President’s Review Panel members,

Thank you, again, for all your work on the report and for your time on the phone to review our initial responses to your recommendations.

Providing a safe, respectful, and responsible campus is critical to the University of Oregon’s mission. All forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual violence, harassment, and stalking are unacceptable. We share the same goals; to do everything in our power to prevent sexual violence, help encourage healthy and positive attitudes about sexual relationships, improve the campus climate, support survivors, ensure fair and due process for those who are accused, and hold perpetrators accountable.

As you know, we have taken a number of actions over the last 18-months designed to bolster our efforts to respond to and reduce sexual violence including the following:

- A new prevention and response website, printed materials, and a 24/7 confidential reporting hotline (SAFE.uoregon.edu)
- Two new Office of Affirmative Action sexual violence investigators
- New prevention and response staff positions
- An addition of $15,000 for emergency survivor support
- A new women’s self-defense credit classes
- Student Conduct Code changes to improve process and accountability
- Additional confidential reporting options in the Office of the Dean of Students and the Ombudsperson’s Office
- An MOU agreement with the Eugene Police Department to coordinate investigations with the UO Police Department and the university
- Auditing Fraternity and Sorority Life and publicly posting any sanctions

After recent discussions with you, the University Senate, and members of the campus community, I would like to update you on our progress, as well as respond in greater detail to the recommendations outlined in the panel’s report. I have provided similar progress reports on the senate’s recommendations, and to Vice President Robin Holmes regarding the Student Life Gap Analysis.

As you noted, implementing the vast array of recommendations will take coordination and sustained effort. On Monday, March 30, we launched a national search for an assistant vice president-campus sexual assault and Title IX coordinator, to coordinate the university’s campus-wide work to reduce sexual assault and ensure institutional accountability in responding to reported concerns and complaints. The person in this position will have primary responsibility for coordinating effective efforts in compliance with Title IX and federal laws.
promoting equal educational opportunities. The position will report to the president and the vice president for student life.

In addition, I am forming two advisory groups, an executive committee on Title IX, and a sexual assault advisory council. These groups will participate in a campus-wide effort to finalize a comprehensive strategic plan to reduce and respond to campus sexual assault. I hope to have the new AVP on board by July and to have a preliminary plan ready to share with the campus community when classes begin in the fall.

While our formal, 3-year strategic plan will not be finalized until fall, we have already implemented a number of recommendations from the President’s Review Panel, (as well as some from the Senate Task Force and the Student Life gap analysis):

- Increased funding: I approved a recurring allocation of $500,000, beginning in FY16, to support new staffing, prevention, and response efforts. This allocation is in addition to the resources invested this year which included a new director of prevention, an additional response position, another investigator in the Office of Affirmative Action, and increased funds for our award-winning Sexual Wellness Advocacy Team (SWAT) program.
- Climate surveys: In March, I appointed a Campus Climate Survey Advisory Group to oversee both the AAU survey and an internal survey conducted by Professor Jennifer Freyd’s research lab.
- As a follow-up to the It’s On Us/Ducks Do Something video launched in October 2014, our Sexual Violence Prevention & Education office created a student video contest that engaged more than two dozen teams of students who created follow up videos after attending educational trainings, with scripts reviewed by sexual violence prevention specialists. The winning videos will be posted on the national It’s on Us campaign YouTube channel.
- We are offering our second term of self-defense courses which have been fully subscribed each term.
- Mandatory and confidential reporting: We’ve made a number of changes including designating the ombudsperson as a confidential reporter and have sent a notice to faculty, staff, and students about mandatory and confidential reporting (which we will do each fall). Additionally, the university is reviewing these policies as part of a larger policy revision project already underway.
- Student Conduct Code: We are on track to make needed changes to the conduct code at the June meeting of the board, including (list some of the specific changes that speak to the recommendations of the Panel).
- Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL): A focus on sexual violence prevention in fraternities and sororities has begun through the creation of a Sexual Violence Task Force that includes members from every chapter on campus. Additionally, we are facilitating an
external review of FSL this summer, and working to publicize information about fraternity and sorority sanctions and the work of the FSL task force.

- Athletics: A new deputy Title IX coordinator has been identified and a plan for training is being finalized. Additionally, an evaluation of student conduct compliance is being included in each coaches’ performance evaluation.

We also have some activities underway that will be implemented by the beginning of fall term:

- All students will attend SWAT presentations during IntroDucktion, international student orientation, or transfer student orientation.
- A Red Zone Campaign will be designed to engage all students
  - SWAT+ for new students who went through IntroDucktion
  - Tailored programming for certain groups (athletics, FSL, Club Sports, band, etc.)
- Web information: We are in the process of making further refinements to the SAFE website, adding comprehensive prevention information to the Division of Student Life website, and developing a long range, comprehensive plan for all web-based resources.