**Tuition and Fee Advisory Board of the University of Oregon**

**Meeting Summary | November 4, 2022**

The 2022–2023 Tuition and Fee Advisory Board (TFAB) of the University of Oregon met in room 230 (Swindells) of the Erb Memorial Union at 8:15 a.m. on Friday, November 4, 2022. A remote option was available by request; only one participant attended the meeting remotely. Below is a summary of the meeting; documents discussed during the session are available [online](https://tuition.uoregon.edu/updates).

**Attending**: Krista Borg, Jim Brooks, Deborah Butler (guest), Robin Clement, Renée Dorjahn, Brian Fox, Heather Kingsley, Lucien Lasocki (guest), Lauryn Lilly, Laura Lee McIntre, Jamie Moffitt (co-chair), JP Monroe, Brad Morin, Cass Moseley, Marian Mumin, Jim Murez (guest), Erick Njue, Grant Schoonover, Sam Schwartz (guest), Kathie Stanley (remote), Kris Winter (co-chair), Harry Wonham, Ben Young.

**Staff**: Debbie Sharp (Office of the senior VPFA)

**Introductions**. Co-chair Kris Winter, interim vice president for student life, welcomed the group and asked people to share their names and whether they were TFAB members or guests.

**UO budget information**. Co-chair Jamie Moffitt, senior vice president for finance and administration and CFO, provided a financial briefing for the group, which included an overview of the UO budget structure, information on key sources of university funding, an outline of key cost drivers, and insight into key Education and General (E&G) fund challenges facing the university. In particular, Moffitt noted that the UO found itself in an unusual budget situation at the end of FY22, due to one-time money from the federal government and unprecedented levels of vacancies that led to significant one-time salary savings, albeit at the cost of operating pressures across the university as departments and units had to continue activities with fewer faculty and staff.

The group discussed restricted gift funding, graduate tuition and revenue, the Budget Advisory Group (BAG) process for funding internal strategic initiatives, and the impact of increased costs associated with the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) healthcare benefits. Meeting participants also talked about the importance of thinking ahead multiple years regarding projected university costs, the challenge of recruiting international students, and the impact of low state appropriations on the UO budget situation.

**Impact of COVID-19 on institutional finances**. Moffitt then spent time providing an overview of the impact of Covid-19 on UO finances. This included information on the considerable risk faced by the university in spring 2020, the significant impacts of Covid-19 on the finances of auxiliary operations, and various actions taken by the university to reduce expenditures. She talked about FY2022, a year during which enrollment rebounded, the university received Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) funding, and unprecedented staffing challenges existed that resulted in significant one-time personnel cost savings. Moffitt shared a breakdown of federal Covid relief funds, FY22 Education and General (E&G) fund revenue and cost numbers, and weeks of operating expenses FY2018-FY2022, noting that the UO tends to have lower levels of reserves than other flagship public research universities. Finally, she provided an overview of risks the UO faces in the coming years, including inflation and the potential for a recession, and resulting cuts in state funding.

The group discussed the importance of economic diversity at the University of Oregon, how students are consulted as part of the tuition and fee proposal process, and how graduate proposals are received and summarized for review by TFAB members.

**Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.