

DRAFT Summary Points
Oregon Institute of Technology Institutional Evaluation
December, 2017

ORS 352.061 requires the HECC to conduct annual evaluations of public universities in Oregon according to specific statutory criteria. Overall, the HECC's approach is to assess the university's contributions to statewide goals for higher education. We do not purport to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the university against its own mission. A summary of key findings follows:

1. **Accreditation:** OIT is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), and is fully on track with the 7-year NWCCU cycle for accreditation. During its last review in 2015 (Year 7 Evaluation), NWCCU recommended that OIT develop an agreement that clearly defines the relationship between OIT and its Foundation; and that OIT develop and enforce a policy for credit for prior learning assessment. OIT has addressed both of these recommendations.
2. **Economic impact:** A 2016 ECONorthwest report estimates the economic impact of the OIT in FY15 as \$75 million in Klamath County and an additional \$32 million in the Portland metro region.
3. **Student access and student success:** After a decade of enrollment increases, Fall 2017 saw continued, strong enrollment growth: 1.1% decrease for non-residents, 6.9% increase for resident students, and 4.9% in total enrollment. Over a ten-year period, total enrollment is up 55.7%, and 40.4% since 2011. OIT awarded 2.4% more degrees in 2016-17 than the prior year, continuing a positive growth trend that began in 2013. While the six-year graduation rate for Pell Grant recipients (54.2%) is slightly better than the overall population (53.5%), underrepresented minority students lag the institutional average by 15 percentage points (38.6%). The number of underrepresented minority students enrolled at OIT continues to increase, and has grown by 37% since Fall 2013.
4. **Affordability:** For 2017-18, OIT's resident undergraduate tuition increased by 5.00%, and the estimated total cost of attendance increased by 18.9% to \$25,678, largely due to significant increases in estimated books/supplies, and personal expenses. For OIT students who leave the university with federal government-backed debt, their average federal government-backed debt load is \$22,875.
5. **Academic Quality and Research:** In addition to maintaining in good standing with its regional accreditor, OIT is very active in applied research in manufacturing and medical fields. For 2016-17, OIT reported total research expenditures of \$2.0 million.
6. **Collaboration:** OIT contributes to a host of collaborative activities with other post-secondary institutions. Significant efforts include its partnership in the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center; the Rural Health Initiative and the Population Health Management Research Center. About 62% of OIT's Fall 2017 newly admitted undergraduates were transfer students, many of them from an Oregon community college.
7. **Shared administrative services:** OIT participates in all of the services offered by the University Shared Services Enterprise (USSE).

8. **Financial Metrics:** Presented both with and without the impact of GASB 68, although only the ratios with GASB 68 are analyzed in the full evaluation:

OREGON TECH RATIOS WITH GASB 68				
Ratio	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	Benchmark
Viability Ratio	57.22%	71.07%	81.25%	>125%
Primary Reserve Ratio	42.63%	40.97%	41.33%	>40%
Net Operating Revenues Ratio	-3.06%	-0.07%	-0.47%	>4%
Return on Net Assets Ratio	12.49%	92.67%	8.21%	>6%
Debt Burden Ratio	4.54%	5.04%	4.41%	<5%

OREGON TECH RATIOS WITHOUT GASB 68				
Ratio	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	Benchmark
Viability Ratio	59.00%	85.00%	86.00%	>125%
Primary Reserve Ratio	43.00%	53.00%	45.00%	>40%
Net Operating Revenues Ratio	-7.37%	6.51%	2.24%	>4%
Return on Net Assets Ratio	5.61%	100.41%	9.82%	>6%
Debt Burden Ratio	4.97%	5.41%	4.54%	<5%

Displayed benchmarks for public universities from NACUBO publications.

9. **Board of Trustees:** In 2017, the OIT Board of Trustees appears to have met its legal responsibilities for providing public notice, accessibility, and records. In 2017, the Board exercised many of the powers reserved for it under law, including presidential oversight, budget adoption, tuition adoption, debt issuance, and program approval (for HECC consideration).