
Docket Item:

University Evaluations (in accordance with ORS 352.061)

Summary:

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission is required to submit to the Legislative Assembly an evaluation of public universities on an annual basis, with each public university undergoing evaluation in the manner required by this section once every two years. As part of the evaluation submitted to the Legislative Assembly, the Commission may make recommendations regarding the ability of the university to meet academic goals and fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities.

Under statute, the evaluation must include:

- A report on the university's achievement of outcomes, measures of progress, goals and targets;
- An assessment of the university's progress toward achieving the mission of all education beyond high school as described in ORS 350.014; and
- An assessment as to how well the establishment of a governing board at the university comports with the findings set forth in ORS 352.025.

This year the HECC will evaluate three institutions: Oregon State University, University of Oregon, and Portland State University. These evaluations rely on a combination of institutional accreditation reports, self-assessments, and criteria jointly developed with the HECC. The reports will focus on key areas of interest to the HECC that support state higher education objectives: student success as measured by degree completion; access and affordability as measured by equity across socioeconomic, racial/ethnic, and regional (urban/rural) groups; academic quality and research; financial sustainability; continued collaboration across institutions; and adherence to legal responsibilities required of institutional boards of trustees.

Today's materials reflect a staff summary of information derived from HECC data and institutional self-reports, aligned with the major evaluative categories. Institutional leaders have reviewed the summaries, and HECC staff has incorporated many of their suggestions. Based on feedback from the Commission, staff will prepare comprehensive evaluations for the Commission's consideration and adoption at its February 2019 meeting.

Docket Material:

Attachment: University evaluations summary points for:

- Oregon State University
- University of Oregon
- Portland State University

Staff Recommendation:

Evaluation summaries are presented for Commission discussion and feedback only. No action is required.