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EOU Strategic Planning 2016-17

Background & Purpose:

Eastern Oregon University (EOU) is beginning its 88th year serving as an institution of higher learning. The institution has a proud history of providing access and opportunity to students from across the state of Oregon and in particular the eastern Oregon region. Recently, the institution has experienced significant leadership instability during a time of economic stagnation and a changing competitive landscape in higher education. This has resulted in financial challenges and created obstacles to institutional excellence.

EOU has tremendous opportunity to thrive in serving students, the state and the region with the development and execution of an effective strategic plan. Now is the time for EOU to build upon its strengths and pursue the many opportunities that exist in order to enhance current performance and build a tradition of excellence. Under a new governance structure for higher education in the state of Oregon, we have a passionate and participative Board of Trustees. We have committed leadership, dedicated faculty and staff, and supportive alumni and friends of the university. We must proceed forward with purpose. EOU's mission, which describes what we are and what we strive to do now, is a point of departure for our strategic planning:

EOU guides student inquiry through integrated high-quality liberal arts and professional programs that lead to responsible and reflective action in a diverse and interconnected world.

As an educational, cultural and scholarly center, EOU connects the rural regions of Oregon to a wider world. Our beautiful setting and small size enhance the personal attention our students receive, while partnerships with colleges, universities, agencies and communities add to the educational possibilities of our region and state.

Objectives:

The University Council will work with the University President to lead an inclusive process that will provide all campus and regional center stakeholders with opportunities to contribute to the development of the institutional strategic plan (goals, measurable objectives, and key performance indicators (KPIs)). This work is to be completed by January 2017. Given the amount of information to be synthesized an ad hoc committee, appointed by the President, will support University Council.