President’s Report

Oakland University

Board of Trustees

Monday, April 6, 2020
I. Pandemic Preparedness

II. Safety and Emergency Response

III. Remote Learning

IV. Financial Impact

V. Community Engagement
Pandemic Preparedness

- **January**
  - Emergency Response Team begins to monitor spread of virus

- **February 6**
  - President convenes leadership to address COVID-19 threat

- **February 14**
  - COVID-19 Emergency Response Task Force
  - Regular briefings
  - Prioritize decision-making
  - Coordinate campus communications
Pandemic Preparedness

Established 10 operational task forces and decision making team

COVID-19 Steering Committee

VP Decision Making Team

Infection Prevention and Control

Student Affairs

Academic Affairs

Large Events

Pandemic Preparedness

Operations

Travel Registry

Human Resources

Communications
Safety and Emergency Response

• Expanded services, counseling at Graham Health Center

• Monitoring COVID-19 and planning actions
  o CDC recommendations and requirements, including travel restrictions, quarantine, etc.
  o Proximity of virus and frequency of infections
  o Institutional best practices in combating virus
  o Closure of Meadow Brook Hall and Golf and Learning Center

• Readily redeployed resources
  o Prepare facilities, resources, parking lots to respond to community health, medical and food needs
Safety and Emergency Response

• **February 21**
  - Precautionary recommendation sent to OU community
  - Restricted international travel
  - Recommendations shared on University-affiliated travel

• **March 11**
  - Governor Whitmer announced two COVID-19 cases in Michigan
  - Converted instruction from in-class delivery to remote learning
  - Cancelled University events
  - Restricted number of people at meetings/gatherings
• **March 13**
  - Option to work remotely for staff
  - First of President’s four weekly video message to the OU community
  - Study abroad programs canceled through August

• **March 16**
  - Remote learning begins with plans to continue through April 25
Safety and Emergency Response

• March 16-27
  - Allowed early contract release option for housing students on prorated basis
  - Closed residence halls, except for approx. 250 students with no other place to live
  - Keeping OU Food Pantry open
Safety and Emergency Response

- **March 20**
  - Commencement postponed until August 27-29 in the O’rena

- **March 23**
  - All non-essential employees work from home
Safety and Emergency Response

- Deploy remote work, job rotation
- Determined status “essential employees” working on campus
- Identified immediate financial needs, expedited spending process
- Established “continuity management”
  - Regular meetings with federal, state, county and local officials/agencies
Remote Learning

- Moving all winter and summer I classes to remote learning
- Developed options for administering final exams remotely
- Academic Affairs staff answering the crisis hotline
- Implemented S/U grading option for students
- Assure study abroad students received full support
  - All returned home by March 24
Financial Impact

- Financial initiatives to assist students:
  - Housing refunds
  - Removed financial holds so students can enroll for summer and fall
  - Discontinued collection efforts on delinquent accounts
  - Halted new collection agency assignments
Financial Impact

- Monitoring budget implications; FY2020 and FY2021
  - Anticipate delay of state appropriation payment potential ($4.8M)
  - Expect reduced NCAA allocations
  - Tracking COVID-19 expenditures for potential reimbursement from FEMA, State of Michigan, etc.
  - OU Vice Presidents are monitoring their divisions’ large expenditures and vacant positions for necessity
  - Temporarily cancelled all travel
  - Paused numerous non-bond funded projects
Financial Impact

- Reviewing CARES Act Economic Relief Plan
  - Anticipate $13.4M - $13.9M
  - Determine how the funds can be allocated
Community Engagement

• COVID-19 STUDENT RELIEF FUND
  o Assists students with unexpected financial hardships

NUMBER OF DONORS
106
TOTAL RAISED
$73,785
• Requests for funding from COVID-19 Relief Fund will cover the following expenses:
  o Laptops for remote learning
  o Connectivity (Internet, cell phone)
  o Food insecurity
  o Transportation challenges
  o Medical expenses

• Supporting OU students’ unexpected financial needs caused by current crisis helps to ensure they remain on a path to graduation
Community Engagement

- **March 20**
  - Formed The Engagement And Mobilization Task Force (TEAM)

- **March 24**
  - Oakland Center becomes county food distribution site

- **March 30**
  - OU makes Hillcrest Hall available to Beaumont and Ascension healthcare workers
Community Engagement

• Partnership with Lighthouse, a Pontiac-based non-profit that addresses issues of homelessness and poverty.

• Pursuing grant with Pontiac Community Foundation to support website (mycovidresponse.org ) that matches community needs with volunteers

• OU volunteers are working with Detroit Sewn, a Pontiac company to make medical masks
  o Exploring campus space for Detroit Sewn to expand their operations.
OU: Proud & Strong

- Anticipate “Shelter in Place” order to continue through May
- Well-prepared for the academic, administrative and societal challenges ahead
- Inspired by faculty’s willingness to adapt to new teaching modalities
- Proud of the extraordinary dedication of students, faculty and staff to contribute to the regional community