

**RESOLUTION**  
**PSU Faculty Senate**  
**October 6, 2014**

**Whereas the University and PSU-AAUP agreed\* to jointly propose to the Faculty Senate the creation of a joint taskforce to examine academic quality at PSU,**

**Whereas the Senate voted to adopt [A Holistic Approach to Strategic Institutional Development](#) in support of excellence in teaching and research in April 2011,**

**Be it resolved that the members of the Portland State University Faculty Senate:**

Establish a taskforce to examine academic quality (AQ) at Portland State University with the joint participation of faculty, staff, administrators, and students. Representation should assure the inclusion of faculty who are represented by AAUP and PSUFA (5), of faculty and staff on administrative appointments in academic affairs and finance and administration as well as chairs, directors, and deans (3), and of students as recommended by ASPSU (1).

The AQ Task Force will

- be responsible, with fiscal and administrative support from the University, for the identification and description of PSU's aspirational comparators in keeping with LOA #4
- share a plan of work with the Faculty Senate no later than the January 5, 2015 meeting
- organize one or more open forums for discussion with faculty, staff, and administration that include discussion of comparators with regard to investments in high quality teaching, high quality student support, and high quality research
- present its report to the Senate at the June 2, 2015 meeting, including a plan to assure the continuing review of PSU's aspirational comparators in keeping with the vision and mission of PSU

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**\*LETTER OF AGREEMENT—LOA #4: PSU and AAUP Task Force on Academic Quality:** *Collective Bargaining Agreement with Portland State University Chapter, American Association of University Professors and Portland State University, Portland, Oregon. For the Period September 1, 2013 through November 30, 2015 [Revised August 25, 2014]*

**Vision:** The University and PSU-AAUP are mutually dedicated to the vision of Portland State University as an internationally recognized urban university known for excellence in student learning and retention, path-breaking research and community engagement that contributes to the economic vitality, environmental sustainability and a high quality of life in the Portland metropolitan area and beyond.

The parties agree to jointly propose to the Faculty Senate the creation of a joint taskforce to examine academic quality at Portland State. If the Faculty Senate creates and charges such a taskforce, and requests our participation, the parties agree to participate. Other participants may include ASPSU, PSUFA and any other party determined appropriate by the Faculty Senate.

The University agrees to provide support to fund the identification and description of PSU's aspirational comparators.

Topics to be suggested shall include:

**The Elements of High Quality Teaching**, including student success, well qualified faculty, student interaction and appropriate class size.

**The Components of High Quality Student Support**, including advising, financial aid, tutoring, library, and health care, among others, particularly given PSU's access mission.