

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules and
Executive Appointments

DATE: May 20, 2024

BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst

RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



LPRO
LEGISLATIVE POLICY
AND RESEARCH OFFICE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Board of Trustees for the Oregon Institute of Technology subject to Senate confirmation.¹

New Appointees

Aaron Hill of Portland

Mark Neupert of Klamath Falls

Terms

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 352.054 and 352.076 \(2023\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Composition³

The Governor appoints 12 to 18 members, including:

- one enrolled undergraduate student (**HILL**);
- one enrolled undergraduate student, nonvoting (**VACANT**);
- one graduate student (**VACANT**);
- one faculty member (**NEUPERT**);
- one nonfaculty staff member (**VITALI**);
- eight to 12 at large members: (**BIRD, CAUBLE, DAVIS, DHIR, EARLY, GENTRY, GOPALPUR, JONES, AMUCHASTEGUI, NUÑEZ-FLORES, STARR**); and
- the university president, *ex officio*, nonvoting (**NAGANATHAN**).

Student, faculty, and nonfaculty staff serve two-year terms; other members serve four-year terms. All members may serve two consecutive terms. The Governor may remove appointed members but may not remove more than three within four years, unless for

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4, ORS 171.562 and 171.565 \(2023\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

³ [ORS 352.076 \(2023\)](#); [ORS 182.100 \(2023\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2023\)](#) for diversity criteria.

corrupt conduct. Faculty and nonfaculty staff members may not participate in any discussions, action, or sessions concerning collective bargaining issues.

The board selects its chair and vice chair and must meet at least four times per year.

Duties⁴

Oregon's seven public universities have governing boards that:

- provide transparency, public accountability, and support for the university;
- are close to and closely focused on the individual university;
- lead to greater access and affordability for Oregon residents and do not disadvantage Oregon students relative to out-of-state students;
- act in the best interests of the university and the State of Oregon; and
- promote academic success in support of all education beyond high school.

The governing board of each university must:

- adopt the university budget;
- in consultation with the Governor, appoint and supervise a university president;
- establish a process for determining tuition and mandatory enrollment fees;
- have custody and control of all real and personal property used;
- ensure collateral to secures funds on deposit;
- adopt standards governing employee outside employment and activities
- provide group insurance and deferred compensation plans to employees;
- adopt standards for the alcohol and drug abuse policy and implementation plan;
- exempt a student who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident, or financially dependent on a person who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident, from paying nonresident tuition and fees under specified conditions; and
- adopt standards for the administration of statutes.

The governing board of each university may:

- manage revenue derived from tuition and mandatory enrollment fees;
- regulate traffic and parking and establish a police department;
- commission special campus security officers;
- sell forest products and conduct forestland management research projects;
- undertake the construction of any building or structure for higher education;
- adopt standards governing access to certain personnel records; and
- contract with the U.S. Armed Forces for education to active members.

⁴ [ORS 352.025 and 352.313 \(2023\)](#).



Oregon Institute of Technology, Board of Trustees of the

Agency: **Education, Oregon Department of**

Authorization: **ORS 352.076**

Min Members: **0** Max Members: **16**

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **2**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Regional Solutions**

Board Admin: **Dr. Ken Fincher**

Address:

Oregon Institute of Technology

3201 Campus Drive

Klamath Falls, OR 97601

541-885-1118

ken.fincher@oit.edu

Current Appointments

Dhir, Vijay

At-Large

Position Number: **1**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Bird, Stefan

At-Large

Position Number: **2**

Term(s): **7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**

Mr Gopalpur, Chandrakanth "Kanth" C

At-Large

Position Number: **3**

Term(s): **7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**

Ms Vitali, Michele

Nonfaculty Staff

Position Number: **13**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2025**

7/1/2021 - 6/30/2023

10/1/2020 - 6/30/2021

Cauble, David

At-Large

Position Number: **4**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Gentry, Don

At-Large

Position Number: **5**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Amuchastegui, Cecilia "Cec"

At-Large

Position Number: **6**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Ms Núñez-Flores, Celia

At-Large

Position Number: **10**

Term(s): **7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**

7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022

9/19/2014 - 6/30/2018

Mr Starr, Michael "Mike" A At-Large Position Number: 7	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026 12/17/2018 - 6/30/2022
Dr. Early II, Johnnie At-Large Position Number: 8	Term(s):	7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027
Mr Davis, John C At-Large Position Number: 9	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026
Mr Jones, Vincent At-Large Position Number: 11	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026 7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022 6/1/2016 - 6/30/2018
Nguyen, Phong Faculty Position Number: 12	Term(s):	9/28/2022 - 6/30/2024
Neupert, Mark Faculty Position Number: 12	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026
Wichmann, Mason Undergraduate Student (voting) Position Number: 14	Term(s):	9/28/2022 - 6/30/2024
Hill, Aaron Undergraduate Student (voting) Position Number: 14	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026

Vacant Positions				
Pos	Former Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
15	<i>No prior appointments</i>			
Pos	Former Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
16	<i>No prior appointments</i>			