

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules
DATE: March 27, 2025
BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

The Governor has appointed the following individual to the Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University subject to Senate confirmation.¹

New Appointee

Michelle Fuentes of Central Point

Term

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

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

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Composition³

The Governor appoints 12 to 18 members (BARRY, CHAVEZ, CLOUGH, FRANKS, LEE, MEDINA, SANTOS, SHELBY, THALDEN, VACANT, VACANT), including⁴

- one enrolled undergraduate student (**FUENTES**);
- one enrolled undergraduate student, nonvoting (SHARMA);
- one graduate student (TAITANO);
- one faculty member (VACANT);
- one nonfaculty staff member (MENDOZA); and
- the university president, *ex officio*, nonvoting (BAILEY).

Student, faculty, and nonfaculty staff serve two-year terms; other members serve four-year terms. Both types of members may serve up to two consecutive terms. The Governor may remove appointed members but may not remove more than three within four years, unless for corrupt conduct. Faculty and nonfaculty staff members may not participate in any discussions, action, or sessions concerning collective bargaining issues.

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

² [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

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

⁴ [ORS 352.076 \(2023\)](#).

The board selects its chair and vice chair. The board shall adopt bylaws concerning how a quorum is constituted and when a quorum is necessary. The board must meet at least four times per year.

Duties⁵

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 secure 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.

⁵ [ORS 352.025 and 352.313 \(2023\)](#).



Southern Oregon University, Board of Trustees of

Agency: **Education, Oregon Department of**

Authorization: **ORS 352.076**

Min Members: **11** Max Members: **17**

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

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Regional Solutions**

Board Admin: **Sabrina Prud'homme**

Address:

Southern Oregon University

1250 Siskiyou Boulevard, Ste. #117

Ashland, OR 97520

541-552-6060

prudhomms@sou.edu

Current Appointments

Ms Lee, Debra Fing Jing

At-Large

Position Number: **1**

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

7/1/2021 - 6/30/2022

Mrs Clough, Sheila M

At-Large

Position Number: **3**

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

7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022

5/3/2017 - 6/30/2018

Mr Thalden, Barry

At-Large

Position Number: **4**

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

7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022

Shelby, Elizabeth

At-Large

Position Number: **5**

Term(s): **9/28/2022 - 6/30/2026**

Mr Santos, Daniel "Danny" P

At-Large

Position Number: **6**

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

7/1/2019 - 6/30/2023

9/26/2016 - 6/30/2019

Medina, Christina

At-Large

Position Number: **8**

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

Chavez, Iris Maria

At-Large

Position Number: **9**

Term(s): **9/28/2022 - 6/30/2026**

Barry, Brent

At-Large

Position Number: **10**

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

Mr Franks, Shaun H At-Large Position Number: 11	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026 7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022
Schepmann, Hala Faculty Member Position Number: 12	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026 2/16/2024 - 6/30/2024
Mendoza, Jason Nonfaculty Staff Member Position Number: 13	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026 10/5/2023 - 6/30/2024
Sharma, Garima Undergraduate Student (voting) Position Number: 14	Term(s):	2/16/2024 - 6/30/2025
Goodrich, Ryan Undergraduate Student (voting) Position Number: 14	Term(s):	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2027 3/1/2025 - 6/30/2025
Fuentes, Michelle Undergraduate Student (non-voting) Position Number: 15	Term(s):	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2027
Taitano, Julissa Graduate Student Position Number: 16	Term(s):	2/16/2024 - 6/30/2025
Bailey, Richard SOU President Position Number: 17	Term(s):	-

Vacant Positions				
Pos	Former Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
2	Mr Thorndike, William "Bill" D Jr.	Governor	7/1/2022	6/30/2026
2	Mr Thorndike, William "Bill" D Jr.	Governor	7/1/2018	6/30/2022
2	Mr Thorndike, William "Bill" D Jr.	Governor	9/19/2014	6/30/2018

Pos	Former Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
7	Card, Sachta	Governor	2/16/2024	6/30/2027
7	Bullock, Jonathan "Jon" C	Governor	7/1/2022	6/30/2026
7	Bullock, Jonathan "Jon" C	Governor	7/1/2018	6/30/2022
7	Ms Sayre, Teresa L	Governor	9/19/2014	6/30/2018