

# Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules  
DATE: February 2, 2026  
BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst  
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



**LPRO**  
LEGISLATIVE POLICY  
AND RESEARCH OFFICE

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

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The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University subject to Senate confirmation.<sup>1</sup>

### New Appointments

Peter Buckley of Ashland  
Christopher Geryak of Talent

### Reappointments

Peter Buckley of Ashland  
Debra Lee of Medford  
Christina Medina of Medford  
Hala Schepmann of Ashland  
Liz Shelby of Medford

### Terms

Buckley: February 20, 2026 – June 30, 2026  
Buckley, Lee, Medina, Shelby: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2030  
Geryak: February 20, 2026 – June 30, 2027  
Schepmann: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028

### Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 352.054 and 352.076 \(2025\)](#)

### Statement of Economic Interest<sup>2</sup>

Not required.

### Composition<sup>3</sup>

The Governor appoints 12 to 18 members (BARRY, **BUCKLEY**, CHAVEZ, CLOUGH, EVERSON, **LEE**, **MEDINA**, SANTOS, **SHELBY**, STEPHENSON, THALDEN), including:

- one enrolled undergraduate student (FUENTES);
- one enrolled undergraduate student, *nonvoting* (**GERYAK**);
- one graduate student (HARWOOD);

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<sup>1</sup> [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 and ORS 171.565 \(2025\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> [ORS 244.050 \(2025\)](#).

<sup>3</sup> [ORS 352.076 \(2025\)](#); [ORS 182.100 \(2025\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2025\)](#) for diversity criteria.

- one faculty member (**SCHEPMANN**);
- one nonfaculty staff member (KING); and
- the university president, *ex officio*, nonvoting (BAILEY).

Student, faculty, and nonfaculty staff serve two-year terms; other members serve four-year terms. Both 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.

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.

## **Duties**<sup>4</sup>

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.

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<sup>4</sup> [ORS 352.025 and 352.313 \(2025\)](#).



## 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

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **1**

Term(s): **7/1/2026 - 6/30/2030**

**7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**

**7/1/2021 - 6/30/2022**

**Everson, Dee Anne**

At-Large

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **2**

Term(s): **7/1/2026 - 6/30/2030**

**11/20/2025 - 6/30/2026**

**Mrs Clough, Sheila M**

At-Large

Appointed By: Governor

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

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **4**

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

**7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022**

**Shelby, Elizabeth**

At-Large

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **5**

Term(s): **7/1/2026 - 6/30/2030**

**9/28/2022 - 6/30/2026**

**Mr Santos, Daniel "Danny" P**

At-Large

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **6**

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

**7/1/2019 - 6/30/2023**

**9/26/2016 - 6/30/2019**

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**Stephenson, Matthew** Term(s): **10/1/2025 - 6/30/2027**

At-Large

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **7**

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**Medina, Christina** Term(s): **7/1/2026 - 6/30/2030**

At-Large

**7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **8**

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**Chavez, Iris Maria** Term(s): **9/28/2022 - 6/30/2026**

At-Large

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **9**

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

At-Large

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **10**

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**Buckley, Peter J** Term(s): **7/1/2026 - 6/30/2030**

At-Large

**2/20/2026 - 6/30/2026**

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **11**

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**Schepmann, Hala** Term(s): **7/1/2026 - 6/30/2028**

Faculty Member

**7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026**

Appointed By: Governor

**2/16/2024 - 6/30/2024**

Position Number: **12**

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**King, Ashley** Term(s): **7/1/2026 - 6/30/2028**

Nonfaculty Staff

**10/1/2025 - 6/30/2026**

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **13**

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**Fuentes, Michelle** Term(s): **7/1/2025 - 6/30/2027**

Undergraduate Student (Voting)

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **14**

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**Geryak, Christopher** Term(s): **2/20/2026 - 6/30/2027**

Undergraduate Student (Non-Voting)

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **15**

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**Harwood, Lucinda "Rose"**

Term(s):

**10/1/2025 - 6/30/2027**

Graduate Student

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **16**

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**Bailey, Richard**

Term(s):

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SOU President

Appointed By: Ex. Officio

Position Number: **17**

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## Vacant Positions

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