

Board Statement on President Emeritus Status Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University

1.0 Policy

The Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University is the sole entity that may confer emeritus status upon a former university president of Southern Oregon University.

Former presidents who have served SOU for a significant period, sufficient to demonstrate meaningful contributions to higher education in Oregon, and upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, may be eligible to be accorded the title of President Emeritus of Southern Oregon University.

The significance of the period of service may include but is not limited to considerations of the duration of service and circumstances occurring during the president's period of service.

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this board statement is to describe the criteria and process for granting the title of President Emeritus and the rights and privileges extended to Presidents Emeriti.

3.0 Criteria for Granting Emeritus Status

The President Emeritus title may be conferred on an individual with significant honorable and distinguished service as university president. Such service goes beyond the regular duties and responsibilities of the appointment and contemplates that the individual had an extraordinary impact on the university and broader community that exemplified the highest standards of professional and personal conduct, integrity, vision, and leadership.

4.0 Process for Granting President Emeritus Status

Granting of the rights, privileges, and title of President Emeritus:

4.1 The Board of Trustees will observe a waiting period of at least one year following the completion of a president's service as university president before considering awarding emeritus status.

4.2 A member of the Board may nominate a university president for the title of President Emeritus. The title must be approved by a majority of the trustees when a quorum is present.

4.3 In the board's determination of awarding the title of President Emeritus, the board may consult with members of the SOU community to support the designation of this honor. The nature of such consultation is informational only, as the Board retains the sole authority for conferring emeritus status upon a former university president of SOU.

4.4 If approved by the Board, the Board Secretary will notify the individual, the SOU Faculty Senate, and the SOU Staff Assembly that the honorary title of President Emeritus has been granted.

4.5 The Board reserves the discretion to award the Presidential Emeritus title and privileges as it deems necessary and appropriate.

4.6 The Board retains the authority to withdraw a President Emeritus title at its discretion at any time.

5.0 Rights and Privileges of Presidential Emeritus Status

5.1 The title of President Emeritus confers no remuneration, rights to employment, rights to service, or any benefit in addition to those described in this policy. Presidents Emeriti do not exercise any of the authority or administrative functions associated with holding a faculty or staff position at the university, unless they are doing so in the capacity of another SOU position title (such as professor).

5.2 The benefits and privileges that inure to a former university president with the President Emeritus title are as follows:

5.2.1 A resolution naming and honoring the university president as President Emeritus;

5.2.2 Listing on the university President's Office website;

5.2.3 Use of the title "President Emeritus" in community and professional activities;

5.2.4 Emeritus business cards upon request;

5.2.5 Upon the invitation of the then-current University President, the option to participate in university functions and events;

5.2.6 Complimentary parking on the university campus upon request;


5.2.7 The ability to use an institutional e-mail address;

5.2.8 SOU Identification Card; and


5.2.9 Campus library privileges.

The Board of Trustees may consider additional privileges. The exercise of any privileges shall be consistent with the institutional policies and procedures of Southern Oregon University. The costs of these privileges shall be the responsibility of Southern Oregon University.

It is the intent of this statement that the designated individual shall be accorded the right to use the President Emeritus designation from the date of issuance forward, to mark this singularly significant professional honor.



Chair, Board of Trustees



University Board Secretary

Revision	Change	Date
	Initial	June 17, 2022