

**Board Statement on Recommending Candidates
for At-Large Board Positions
Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University**

1.0 Goal

Members of the Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University are appointed by the Governor of the State of Oregon and confirmed by the Oregon Senate, in compliance with Oregon Law. It is a goal of the Board of Trustees (“Board”) to recommend at-large candidates for the Governor's consideration who meet the individual characteristics desired for the Board and who complement the needs of the Board as a whole. The Board fully recognizes that, as executive appointees, Southern Oregon University trustees are appointed only by the Oregon Governor and confirmed only by the Oregon Senate.

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Board Statement is to guide the Board's efforts in identifying potential candidates to recommend to the Governor for at-large board positions. The positions filled by the following members are not at-large positions on the Board of Trustees: President of the University, two undergraduate students enrolled at the University, a graduate student enrolled at the University, a member of the faculty of the University, and a member of the non-faculty staff of the University. With the exception of the University President, the board will rely on the campus governance bodies that represent the applicable constituent groups to implement a process for nominating candidates for appointment to the Board.

3.0 Other Board Positions

3.1 In accordance with Oregon Law, undergraduate and graduate student members of the Board shall be nominated through an internal governance process held by the official student government, with the candidates nominated provided to the Governor for consideration. More than one candidate per member position on the governing board may be nominated.

3.2 In accordance with Oregon Law, the faculty and non-faculty staff members of the Board shall be nominated through an internal governance process held by the official, respective SOU Faculty Senate or SOU Staff Assembly, with the candidate nominated provided to the Governor for consideration. More than one candidate per member position on the governing board may be nominated.

3.3 If the faculty and non-faculty staff member candidates required to be nominated are represented by multiple organizations, the organizations shall use their best efforts to reach agreement on which candidate or candidates to nominate

per member position of the governing board. If the organizations cannot agree on who to nominate for a member position on the governing board, each organization may select one or more candidates to be nominated.

4.0 Board Composition

4.1. Board Composition. The Board should be composed of members who have:

- A. A commitment to public higher education;
- B. A record of public or community service;
- C. Knowledge of complex organizations or academic institutions;
- D. Demonstrated collaborative, collegial approach to leadership;
- E. A willingness and availability for constructive engagement;
- F. A commitment to open-minded, non-partisan decision-making;
- G. A record of integrity, good judgment, and civic virtue;
- H. A commitment to engagement in board responsibilities and interests;
and
- I. A commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.

4.2 Experience. There should be a variety of perspectives, backgrounds, experience, and skills among the members of the Board. These may include, but are not limited to:

- A. Gender, race and ethnicity, age, geographic location of residence, and other expressions of diversity;
- B. Unique skills and competencies, including experience that will benefit the Board and the University;
- C. Complementary skills and perspectives;
- D. A broad range of professional fields (e.g., education, legal, finance, engineering, healthcare, criminal justice, business, etc.);
- E. Knowledge of and/or connection to Southern Oregon University (alumni relation, campus service, community relationships, etc.); and
- F. Qualifications and characteristics that reflect and support the Governor's goals, priorities, and initiatives.

5.0 Process

5.1 Conduct Needs Assessment. When a vacancy on the Board is anticipated or occurs, the Board Secretary, in conjunction with the President, Board Chair, and/or

Vice Chair, will conduct a needs assessment by analyzing the present Board membership against the composition identified in Section 4. Members of the public university community also may submit recommendations about the ideal characteristics of an individual to fill the vacancy on the board. The Board also will conduct periodic self-assessments, which the Board Secretary, President, and Board Chair also may consider in assessing the Board's needs.

At a public meeting, the governing Board will share the results of the needs assessment and identify the ideal characteristics of any individual chosen to fill the vacancy, including but not limited to preferred skill sets, experience, geographic representation, or other characteristics to complement the needs of the Board.

5.2 Communication with Governor. When a vacancy occurs, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, the Board will notify the Governor of the vacancy and communicate the ideal characteristics identified in Section 5.1 of this statement.

5.3 Identify and Vet Potential Candidates. Based on the needs assessment, the President and/or Board Chair, in consultation with the Vice Chair, will identify potential candidates. To assist the President and Board Chair in identifying potential candidates, the Board Secretary will maintain a list of individuals submitted by sources such as trustees, the President, senior administrators, and others. The President and/or Board Chair will vet candidates under priority consideration, or may cause the vetting of those candidates to occur. Vetting may include a discussion with potential candidates about their interest, responsibilities of serving as a trustee, readiness for nomination, ability to serve the university with:


- A. Support for the mission and strategic priorities of the university;
- B. Commitment of time and talent;
- C. Attendance at and participation in board and committee meetings;
- D. Ability to maintain a university-wide perspective on issues and concerns;
- E. Promotion of the university mission through advocacy and oversight of policy;
and
- F. Active involvement in the life of the university.

5.4 Review Results of the Vetting Process. The President will discuss priority candidates with the Board Chair. The Board Chair will consult with members of the Board regarding potential candidates who are willing and able to serve and who satisfy the needs identified in the needs assessment. Candidates will be asked to complete an application process required by the Governor's Office of Executive Appointments. The Board Secretary may provide technical assistance to applicants. Based on the factors set forth above and the information gathered for the Board

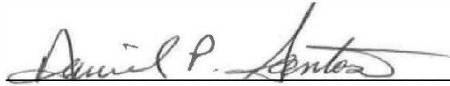
Chair, the Board Chair will decide which candidates to recommend on behalf of the Board of Trustees to the Governor for consideration.

Any member of the public who may be interested in serving as a trustee, but who has not come to the attention of the Board through this process, may apply independently. It is understood by the Board that providing recommendations to the Governor's office regarding potential trustees in no way guarantees or implies appointment of any applicant. As executive appointees, Southern Oregon University Trustees are appointed only by the Oregon Governor and confirmed only by the Oregon Senate in the manner prescribed by law.

Approved on October 20, 2023



Sabrina Prud'homme
University Board Secretary



Daniel P. Santos
Chair, Board of Trustees

Revision	Change	Date
	Initial Version	June 17, 2016
1	Revised to include Vice Chair; Review of results of vetting process revised; basic edits and corrections.	March 22, 2019
2	Board composition section updated; application process updated; basic updates, edits and corrections.	April 21, 2023
3	Conduct Needs Assessment expanded; Communication with Governor and Other Board Positions added	Oct 20, 2023