

# Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules  
DATE: January 30, 2024  
BY: Leslie Porter, Analyst  
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



## HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION

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The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission subject to Senate confirmation.<sup>1</sup>

### New Appointees

Jennifer Procter Andrews of Portland  
Theresa Martinez of Ontario

### Terms

February 16, 2024 – June 30, 2027

### Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 350.050 \(2023\)](#)

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

Required.

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

The commission consists of 15 Oregon residents serving as voting members who are well informed concerning the principles of higher education. Membership includes:

- one public university undergraduate student (ARNOT);
- one public university graduate student (SIPELII);
- one public university faculty member (SIMNITT);
- one community college student (BISCOE);
- one community college faculty member (ROJAS-GALVÁN);
- one public university or community college nonfaculty staff member (MATIAS);
- one member from each of the six congressional districts<sup>4</sup> (FAJARDO (CD1), YAMASAKI (CD2), KOCHER (CD3), HAMANN (CD4), **PROCTER ANDREWS (CD5)**, DEVLIN (CD6)); and
- three members of the general public<sup>5</sup> (ADAMS, **MARTINEZ**, ROWE).

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

<sup>2</sup> [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>3</sup> [ORS 320.050 \(2023\)](#); [ORS 182.100 \(2023\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2023\)](#) for diversity criteria.

<sup>4</sup> This reflects a change in membership, established by House Bill 3564 (Chapter 557, Oregon Laws 2023), due to the addition of a sixth congressional district, established in [Chapter 1, Oregon Laws 2021 \(first special session\)](#).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

The Governor shall elicit recommendations for student, faculty, and staff appointees. Appointees from the congressional districts and from the general public serve four-year terms and the remainder serve two-year terms. All members are eligible for reappointment. The Governor may, for cause, remove any member after notice and a public hearing, but not more than three members shall be removed within a period of four years, unless it is for corrupt conduct in office.<sup>6</sup>

The commission selects its chair and vice chair. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum. The commission must meet at least once every three months.<sup>7</sup>

## **Duties<sup>8</sup>**

The commission works to ensure access to post-secondary education and academic success. The commission must:

- establish educational attainment goals for adults not currently enrolled in a post-secondary training program, in coordination with the State Workforce and Talent Development Board;
- appoint an executive director;
- develop goals for post-secondary education, including community colleges and public universities, and for student access programs;
- determine strategic investments, and adopt a strategic plan, to achieve goals;
- coordinate post-secondary data collection and structure;
- recommend a consolidated higher education agency request;
- adopt rules governing the distribution of appropriations;
- approve or deny any significant change to the academic program of a community college or public university;
- approve mission statements adopted by public universities; review specified fee increases; advise the Governor and the Legislative Assembly about university governance issues; and authorize degrees offered by independent post-secondary institutions;
- oversee the licensing of career schools;
- administer a statewide longitudinal data system; conduct longitudinal studies; and report on early learning, kindergarten through Grade 12 education, higher education, and workforce programs, in coordination with the Department of Education, the Employment Department, and other state agencies;
- implement a review process for, and appropriately act on, student complaints;

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<sup>6</sup> [ORS 350.050 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>7</sup> [ORS 350.060 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>8</sup> [ORS 350.018 to 350.640 \(2023\)](#).



- advise the Governor and the Legislative Assembly, community colleges, public universities, and other state boards and commissions on specified policies;
- ensure the implementation of diverse educator recruitment plans;
- make specified reports to the Legislative Assembly;
- work with institutions of higher education to achieve specified goals and appoint an advisory committee to coordinate implementation;
- administer specified funds and grant programs and adopt administrative rules;
- monitor and report on participation of specified groups in higher education;
- conduct annual reviews of each public institution of higher education with respect to the employment of all employee groups at the institution; and
- develop standards for transferring and awarding education credits, in consultation with community colleges and public universities.

The commission may:

- establish advisory and technical committees and delegate powers, duties, or functions to a committee or the executive director;
- enter into contracts and agreements and adopt administrative rules;
- refer to a designee the investigation and resolution of a student complaint, as appropriate, due to the nature and content of any allegations made;
- accept donated money or property, apply for funding from any source, and accept and arrange for the receipt of donations as appropriate; and
- prescribe tests and other measures to evaluate high school equivalency tests.



## Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Agency: **Higher Education Coordinating Commission**

Policy Area: **Education**

Authorization: **ORS 350.050**

Board Admin: **Ben Cannon**

Min Members: **14** Max Members: **15**

Address:

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

**Higher Education Coordinating Commission**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

**255 Capitol Street NE**

**Salem, OR 97310**

**503-947-2379**

**Ben.CANNON@hecc.oregon.gov**

## Current Appointments

**Dr Cross, Terry L**

Term(s): **7/1/2019 - 6/30/2023**

CD 3

**11/20/2015 - 6/30/2019**

Position Number: **1**

**Procter Andrews, Jennifer**

Term(s): **2/16/2024 - 6/30/2027**

CD 5

Position Number: **1**

**Ms Yamasaki, Gayle S**

Term(s): **10/5/2023 - 6/30/2027**

CD 2

Position Number: **2**

**Mr Fajardo, Arnel M PhD**

Term(s): **7/1/2021 - 6/30/2025**

CD 1

Position Number: **3**

**Ms Adams, Rukaiyah N**

Term(s): **11/19/2021 - 6/30/2025**

At-Large

Position Number: **4**

**Kocher, Evelyn**

Term(s): **10/5/2023 - 6/30/2027**

At-Large (will be CD 3 Rep after Terry Cross terms off)

Position Number: **5**

**Devlin, Richard**

Term(s): **3/1/2022 - 2/28/2026**

CD 6

Position Number: **6**

**Mrs Edwards, Helen L**

Term(s): **10/2/2020 - 6/30/2023**

CD 5

Position Number: **7**

<b>Martinez, Theresa</b> At-Large Position Number: <b>7</b>	Term(s):	<b>2/16/2024 - 6/30/2027</b>
<b>Dr Hamann, Gregory J</b> CD 4 Position Number: <b>8</b>	Term(s):	<b>7/1/2021 - 6/30/2025</b>
<b>Ms Rowe, Sandra "Sandy" M</b> At-Large Position Number: <b>9</b>	Term(s):	<b>7/1/2021 - 6/30/2025</b> <b>9/25/2017 - 6/30/2021</b>
<b>Simnitt, Emily</b> Faculty Position Number: <b>10</b>	Term(s):	<b>7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024</b>
<b>Rojas-Galván, Fernando</b> Community College Faculty Position Number: <b>11</b>	Term(s):	<b>7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024</b>
<b>Biscoe, Rachel</b> Community College Student Position Number: <b>12</b>	Term(s):	<b>10/5/2023 - 6/30/2025</b>
<b>Arnot, Natalie</b> Undergraduate University Student Position Number: <b>13</b>	Term(s):	<b>7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024</b>
<b>Sipelii, Motutama</b> Graduate Student Position Number: <b>15</b>	Term(s):	<b>3/1/2022 - 2/29/2024</b>

<b>Vacant Positions</b>				
<b>Pos</b>	<b>Former Member</b>	<b>Appointed By</b>	<b>Term Begin</b>	<b>Term End</b>
14	Matias, Aislyn	Governor	3/1/2022	2/29/2024
14	Mr Farrera, Enrique	Governor	7/1/2019	6/30/2021
14	Mr Farrera, Enrique	Governor	7/1/2017	6/30/2019
14	Mr Farrera, Enrique	Governor	5/13/2016	6/30/2017
14	Mr Fullmer, Robert J	Governor	9/18/2013	6/30/2015