

Memorandum

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



BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

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

New Appointees

Sachta Card of Ashland
Garima Sharma of Ashland
Hala Schepmann of Ashland
Julissa Taitano of Ashland

Reappointee

Hala Schepmann of Ashland

Terms

Card: February 16, 2024 – June 30, 2027
Sharma; Taitano: February 16, 2024 – June 30, 2025
Schepmann: February 15, 2024 – June 30, 2024; July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

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, **CARD**, CHAVEZ, CLOUGH, FRANKS, LEE, MEDINA, SANTOS, SHELBY, THALDEN, THRONDIKE), including:⁴

- one enrolled undergraduate student (PIEPER);
- one enrolled undergraduate student, nonvoting (**SHARMA**);
- one graduate student (**TAITANO**);
- one faculty member (**SHEPMANN**);
- one nonfaculty staff member (MENDOZA); and

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 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.

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 secures 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.

The governing board of each university may:

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



- manage revenue derived from tuition and mandatory enrollment fees;
- regulate traffic and parking and establish a police department;
- commission special campus security officers;
- sell forest products and conduct forestland management research projects;
- undertake the construction of any building or structure for higher education;
- adopt standards governing access to certain personnel records; and
- contract with the U.S. Armed Forces for education to active members.



Southern Oregon University, Board of Trustees of

Agency: **Education, Oregon Department of**

Authorization: **ORS 352.076**

Min Members: **11** Max Members: **14**

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

Mr Thorndike, William D Jr.

At-Large

Position Number: **2**

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

7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022

9/19/2014 - 6/30/2018

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 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

Card, Sachta

At-Large

Position Number: **7**

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

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
Gay, Andrew Faculty Member Position Number: 12	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024
Schepmann, Hala Faculty Member Position Number: 12	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026
Mendoza, Jason Nonfaculty Staff Position Number: 13	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026 10/5/2023 - 6/30/2024
Ms Pieper, Miranda "Mimi" RB Student Position Number: 14	Term(s):	7/1/2023 - 6/30/2025 7/1/2021 - 6/30/2023
Taitano, Julissa Graduate Student Position Number: 15	Term(s):	2/16/2024 - 6/30/2025
Sharma, Garima Undergraduate Student #2 (non-voting) Position Number: 16	Term(s):	2/16/2024 - 6/30/2025

Vacant Positions