

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Interim Committee on Rules
and Executive Appointments

DATE: September 12, 2025

BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst

RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



LPRO
LEGISLATIVE POLICY
AND RESEARCH OFFICE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

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

New Appointee

Conner Fecht of Lovelock, Nevada

Term

October 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 352.054 and 352.076 \(2023\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Composition³

The board consists of 14 to 18 members:

- one enrolled undergraduate student (**FECHT**);
- one enrolled undergraduate student, nonvoting (STANDLEY);
- one graduate student (VACANT);
- one faculty member (GEAGON);
- one nonfaculty staff member (THOMPSON);
- eight to 12 at-large members: (CRONIN, DAVIDSON, GEORGE, HOFMANN, LAIR, MABBOTT, MENDOZA, RIEL, SMITH, VALERIO); and
- the university president, *ex officio*, nonvoting (RYAN).

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

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

² [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

³ [ORS 352.076 \(2023\)](#); [ORS 182.100 \(2023\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2023\)](#) for diversity criteria.

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.

Duties⁴

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.

⁴ [ORS 352.025 and 352.313 \(2023\)](#).



Eastern Oregon University, Board of Trustees of

Agency: **Semi-Independent**

Authorization: **ORS 352.076**

Min Members: **11** Max Members: **16**

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

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Regional Solutions**

Board Admin: **Chris Burford**

Address:

Office of the President | Inlow Hall 216

1 University Boulevard

La Grande, OR 97850

541-962-4101

cburford@eou.edu

Current Appointments

Dr Hofmann, Charles E MD, FACP

At-Large

Position Number: **1**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2026**

Mr Mendoza, George J

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

George, Gary

At-Large

Position Number: **3**

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

Cronin, Christine

At-Large

Position Number: **4**

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

Lair, Erin

At-Large

Position Number: **5**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2026**

Ms Mabbott, Tamra J

At-Large

Position Number: **6**

Term(s): **7/1/2024 - 6/30/2028**

10/1/2020 - 6/30/2024

Smith, Brenda

At-Large

Position Number: **7**

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

Mr Riel, Cedric A

At-Large

Position Number: **8**

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

5/14/2021 - 6/30/2022

Davidson, Scott At-Large Position Number: 9	Term(s):	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Dr Valerio, Maurizio At-Large Position Number: 10	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026 10/1/2020 - 6/30/2022
Geagon, Margot Faculty Position Number: 12	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026
Thompson, Kerry Nonfaculty Staff Position Number: 13	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026 4/26/2023 - 6/30/2024
Fecht, Connor Student (voting) Position Number: 14	Term(s):	10/1/2025 - 6/30/2027
Standley, Ana Student (non-voting) Position Number: 15	Term(s):	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026
Ryan, Kelly EOU President (ex-officio) Position Number: 16	Term(s):	11/1/2022 -

Vacant Positions

Pos	Former Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
11	Mrs Martin, Cheryl A	Governor	7/1/2022	6/30/2026
11	Mrs Martin, Cheryl A	Governor	7/1/2018	6/30/2022
11	Mrs Martin, Cheryl A	Governor	12/12/2014	6/30/2018