

Board Resolution Number 1
Shared Governance at Eastern Oregon University

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) concludes as follows:

1. Recitals.

- a. The establishment of a separate, institutional governing board for Eastern Oregon University (“University” or “EOU”) is a profound opportunity for the success of students.
- b. The authority of the Board and President may be informed and improved by the purposeful engagement with the University’s stakeholders—including its faculty, staff, and students.
- c. The concept of shared governance in an academic environment is expected and appreciated.
- d. The Board is much closer to the affairs of the University than previous governing boards.
- e. A statement affirming the principles of shared governance is a critical step in the success of the University, building trust among University stakeholders and demonstrating a commitment to open deliberation and decision-making.

2. Principles and Values.

The Board is committed to shared governance in the academic environment and embraces the following principles and values to guide the effective and efficient governance and administration of the University:

- a. Frank communication
- b. Open deliberation and decision-making
- c. Consistent reflection upon the University’s mission statement and strategic plan.
- d. Recognition by all University stakeholders of roles and their responsibilities in the efficient governance and administration of the University.
- e. Mutual trust and respect among all University stakeholders.

3. Definition.

Shared governance is defined as appropriately shared responsibility and cooperative action among the Board, President, administrators, faculty, staff and students and, as

applicable, their duly-constituted representative bodies, intended to foster constructive and collaborative thought and action within the institutional structure in service of the University's mission.

4. Roles, Responsibilities and Representation.

a. Board

The Board is vested with the ultimate authority to manage the affairs of the University under Oregon law and applicable Board Statements and actions, including, the Board Statement on Delegation of Authority. The Board should receive and consider input and advice from University stakeholders, as articulated in this resolution, either through the President or directly to the Board through processes and channels established by the Board.

The Board, in its Bylaws and Board Statement on Committees, authorizes the creation of ad hoc committees to address specific topics from time to time. As appropriate, duly-elected or appointed representatives of the University Council, Faculty Senate, and/or Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University (ASEOU) will be asked to participate in these ad hoc committees to provide their expertise and perspective.

b. President, Officers, and Administrators

The President, as the University's chief executive officer and president of the faculty, is responsible for directing the affairs of the University, provided the President's actions are consistent with law and Statements and actions of the Board, including the Board Statement on Delegation of Authority. The President, officers, and administrators have as a primary responsibility the duty to promote collaboration and to encourage faculty and staff in the performance of their duties related to teaching, learning, student and institutional support, professional development, scholarly work and research, and community service.

The President has primary responsibility for communicating with and making recommendations to the Board. The Board expects the President, as appropriate, to provide meaningful opportunity for duly-elected or appointed representatives of the University Council, Faculty Senate, and/or ASEOU, to offer input and advice on the President's recommendations. This includes, but is not limited to the President's recommendations concerning the University's budget, tuition and fee schedule, strategic plan, and mission statement.

The President also has primary authority for the approval of University policies that define the expectations or requirements for University units and functions, as outlined in the Board Statement on Policies. The Board expects duly-elected or appointed representatives of University Council, Faculty Senate, and ASEOU to propose and offer input and advice on University policy.

c. Constitution

The President, University Council and Faculty Senate are authorized to formulate a statement of internal governance expressed as a constitution. This constitution will be ratified as the official statement of internal governance for the University by the relevant institutional bodies and the President. All statements of internal governance will be consistent with State of Oregon governing statutes and Board actions.

d. University Council

University Council is the internal representative body of the full university community. The Board reaffirms the University Council's role in the development and approval of University-wide policies, consistent with Oregon law and the Board Statement on Delegation of Authority. This includes, but is not limited to, responsibility, in conjunction with the President, to accept, consider, and act upon recommendations from standing committees of the University in areas of (i) diversity, (ii) budget and long range planning, (iii) student activities, (iv) intercollegiate athletics, and (v) financial aid policies. The President is authorized to veto any decision of the University Council. Such vetoes will be communicated to the University Council when they occur.

In order to set forth its internal processes for participating in shared governance, the University Council is authorized, consistent with law and the Statements and actions of the Board, to formulate a statement of internal governance expressed as bylaws. The University Council bylaws must be consistent with applicable law and the Statements and actions of the Board.

e. Faculty Senate

The Board reaffirms the faculty's central role in the development and stewardship of the University's academic mission, consistent with Oregon law and the Board Statement on Delegation of Authority. This includes, but is not limited to, responsibility, in conjunction with the President and the Provost, for (i) academic standards relating to admission to study at the University, (ii) curriculum, curricular materials, methods of instruction, grading, credits, and academic standards of the University, (iii) standards of student competence in a discipline, and (iv) developing faculty evaluation and tenure and promotion policies. The Board also expects that the faculty will have substantial participation and input into the development of new academic degree programs and significant changes to academic degree programs before they reach the Board for consideration and approval and, as appropriate, transmission to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for approval.

The Board recognizes the Faculty Senate as the internal representative body of the faculty. In order to set forth its internal processes for participating in shared governance, the Faculty Senate is authorized, consistent with law and the Statements and actions of the Board, to formulate a statement of internal governance expressed as Faculty Senate bylaws. These

bylaws must be consistent with applicable law and the Statements and actions of the Board and are subject to approval by the President in his or her role as president of the faculty. The President presides over the faculty and is authorized to veto any decision of the Faculty Senate. Such vetoes will be communicated to the Faculty Senate when they occur. Notwithstanding the President's statutory role as the president of the faculty, the Faculty Senate Bylaws may provide for a member of the faculty to serve as the Faculty Senate's president. The Faculty Senate Bylaws are subject to approval by the Board after notice to and consultation with the President and the Faculty Senate.

f. Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University

The Board recognizes the ASEOU as the student government for the University. In order to set forth its internal processes for participating in shared governance, the ASEOU is authorized, consistent with law and the Statements and actions of the Board, to formulate a statement of internal governance expressed as a constitution or in another appropriate format. The statement of internal governance must be consistent with applicable law and the Statements and actions of the Board.

5. **Communication.**

a. The Board will, consistent with its Board Statement on the Conduct of Public Meetings, reserve specific time for one duly-elected representative from each of the University Council, Faculty Senate, and ASEOU to address the Board on any matter of concern facing the faculty, staff, or students respectively.

b. As appropriate, the Board will include duly-elected representatives of the University Council, Faculty Senate, and/or ASEOU in any work retreat by the Board.

c. The Board expects the University's President to meet with the duly-elected chair or president of the University Council, Faculty Senate, and ASEOU regularly, but preferably at least monthly, to ensure open communication and prompt discussion and consideration of matters of concern.

[Remainder of page blank. Additional text and signatures on following page]

6. Performance Evaluation.

In evaluating the job performance of the President, the Board will consider the President's commitment to shared governance as described in this Board resolution and seek and obtain the input from the duly-elected members of the Faculty Senate, University Council, and ASEOU.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2015.



Chair of the Board



University General Counsel and Board Secretary