

Board Statement on Evaluation of the University President Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees of Southern Oregon University (“Board”) to review the performance of the President annually.

The primary purposes of the annual review are to enable the President to strengthen their performance and effectiveness in leading the institution to success and to allow the President and the Board to set mutually agreeable goals. The review process is not intended as a substitute for regular and ongoing communication about progress toward goals between the President and the Board.

Annual reviews will inform decisions regarding compensation, although compensation adjustments are not necessarily awarded simultaneously with a positive performance review. Adjustments to, or renewal of, the President’s contract will be handled as a separate matter, taking into account presidential performance, peer-group comparisons and other factors.

The annual review process will occur on a July 1-June 30 cycle. The annual review will cover the preceding year.

The criteria for evaluation and information responsive to those criteria will be based principally on the President’s self-assessment with respect to goals mutually set by the Board and President for the year in review.

The retrospective elements of the President’s self-assessment customarily will include:

- A copy of the mutually-agreed upon goals, with a description of efforts to meet them and the President’s progress assessment, including the identification of significant challenges the President faced over the course of the review year that affected progress toward goals, with particular focus on those that are likely to persist
- A description of other personal or institutional achievements of which the Board should be aware.
- Comments regarding university officers and other campus leaders who report directly to the President, as they pertain to the president’s goals or achievements.
- Key areas in which the Board has been especially supportive.

The prospective elements of the President's self-assessment customarily will include:

- Goals the President proposes for their individual performance over the course of the upcoming year and for three to five years.
- The President's professional development plans and any associated requests of the Board.
- Key areas in which the President would especially benefit from Board support.

Review Process

1. President's Self-Assessment

The President will submit his or her self-assessment to the Board Chair before September 1 of each year. The Board Chair, Vice Chair, and the President will then meet to discuss the self-assessment. The President's self-assessment will be provided to the Board, along with any other information determined by the Board Chair.

Prior to discussion with the Board of Trustees, the Board Chair may, in a timely manner, seek confidential input from trustees and, as the Board Chair deems appropriate, from members of the University community selected by the Board Chair, as the Board Chair deems appropriate.

2. Board Chair's Evaluation

The Board Chair will prepare an evaluation of the President. The evaluation and self-assessment will be shared with the Board of Trustees prior to any meeting in which the Board or committee of the Board will discuss the evaluation.

3. Evaluation of the President

The Executive and Audit Committee may meet in executive session for the purpose of evaluating the President, during which the President is to present their self-assessment and engage in a discussion with the committee regarding both the retrospective and prospective elements of the assessment. The President may be excluded from any portion of such an executive session at the discretion of the Board Chair.

At the Board's fall meeting, or as soon thereafter as the Board's calendar will reasonably allow, the Board of Trustees may go into an executive session to discuss the evaluation of the President. The President may be excluded from any portion of such an executive session at the discretion of the Board Chair.

4. Presentation and Approval of Goals

After the Board discusses the evaluation of the President, the President will then present to the Board for approval the goals that the President proposes for their individual performance for the upcoming year. The President's presentation of their goals and the Board's consideration of such goals shall take place in public session.

5. Board Feedback to the President

After the meeting in which the evaluation of the President takes place, the Board Chair will meet with the President to communicate verbally and/or in writing to the President the conclusions of the evaluation and any recommendations, concerns, or priorities arising out of the evaluation.

The Executive and Audit Committee may, at its discretion, perform a comprehensive performance review of the President, including a 360-degree review. A comprehensive review of this nature should generally be performed prior to consideration of the renewal of the President's contract. When a comprehensive review is performed, it is to be incorporated into the annual review process described above, with such adjustments to the schedule as may be necessary.

Pursuant to ORS 351.065, documents regarding the President's performance, including the President's self-assessment, the Board's evaluation, and the 360-degree review are faculty personnel records and are not public records.

The Board periodically will review and, as necessary or desirable, revise this policy and its associated procedures in light of experience gained, best practices, and legal developments as applicable.

Approved on June 21, 2019


Chair, Board of Trustees


University Board Secretary

Revision	Change	Date
	-Initial Version	January 20, 2017
1	“Retrospective elements” and “Prospective elements” sections updated; Review Process updated; basic edits and corrections	June 21, 2019