



**WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BOARD ORIENTATION  
NOVEMBER 8, 2014  
WERNER UNIVERSITY CENTER, COLUMBIA ROOM  
8:00 AM-1:00 PM  
MEETING NO. 1**

**SUMMARY SHEET**

Pending the approval of written minutes of the Board meeting, this sheet summarizes attendance, votes, motions, and any actions by the Board at its November 8, 2014 orientation. The Board docket for this meeting is available at:

<http://www.wou.edu/board/files/2016/08/Nov-8-2014.pdf>

This summary sheet is provided for informational purposes only. For questions or comments, please contact the Board's Office at 503-838-8888 or [board@wou.edu](mailto:board@wou.edu).

**(1) Welcome/Introductions**

After breakfast, the meeting convened at 8:25 AM and President Mark Weiss and Association of Governing Boards (AGB) Facilitator Dr. Sheila Stearns called the meeting to order. As Western Oregon University (WOU), Southern Oregon University, Eastern Oregon University, and the Oregon Institute of Technology were preparing for independence on July 1, 2015, the Oregon University System funded group governance orientation and individual orientations, facilitated by AGB, at each institution. Dr. Stearns explained the orientation's purpose and its focus on best practice for university governance. Ryan Hagemann noted the attendance for the record. The following trustees were present:

Arredondo (arrived at 8:30 AM)  
Baumgartner  
Guthrie  
Hurtado  
Ingle (arrived at 8:32 AM)  
Koontz  
Kulongoski  
Llamas  
Minahan

Paraskevas  
Shetterly (arrived at 8:31 AM)  
Taylor (participated by phone and arrived at 9:02 AM)  
Weiss

The following trustees were absent:

Hokanson  
Mladenovic

## **(2) The Board: Organizing Principles**

Dr. Stearns facilitated a conversation about the organizing principles of an effective Board, including fiduciary duties, collective responsibility and voice, and rules of engagement.

## **(3) Legal Highlights of Oregon Board Service**

Ryan Hagemann, OUS Vice Chancellor (and incoming WOU Vice President & General Counsel, effective July 1, 2015), described the governance transition, government ethics, use of public and private email, indemnification, public records, and public meetings with the incoming trustees.

## **(4) The Board, the Chair, and the President**

Dr. Stearns facilitated a conversation and shared best practices with the incoming trustees on the relationship with the entire Board, the Board Chair, and the university president, including focus on the role of the chair, communication and trust, the policy role versus the leadership/management role, and presidential search, selection and support.

## **(5) Board Effectiveness**

Dr. Stearns continued with a conversation and observations about board effectiveness, reviewing the habits of effective boards, how to incorporate self-review and course corrections, and how to establish a productive board culture.

## **(6) Follow-up Questions**

President Weiss and Dr. Stearns responded to various questions about the upcoming transition and the trustees were asked to identify the areas in which they were interested. The topics were identified to possibly match trustees with any eventual standing board committees or initiatives that the Board would face in the coming months

as governance transition unfolded. Dr. Stearns suggested that the Board identify and interim Chair to help organize the meetings prior to July 1, 2015. The Board identified Jim Baumgartner as its interim Chair.

**(7) Adjournment**

The orientation adjourned at 12:15 PM as the Board concluded with lunch.

---

Ryan J. Hagemann  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees