Faculty Salaries and Meeting the External Market: United Academics' Proposal

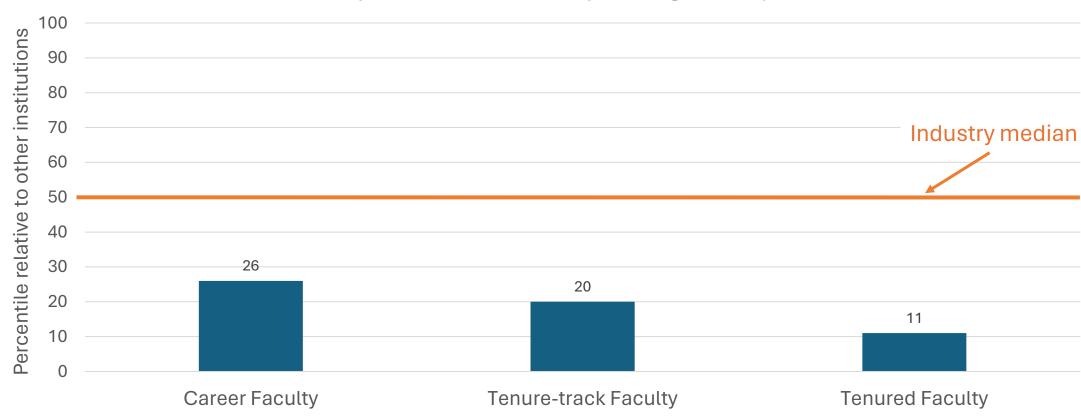
Professor Keaton Miller

Presentation to University Senate, March 13, 2024

We have interrelated morale, recruitment, and retention challenges

Relative to other higher education institutions, faculty morale is below the median

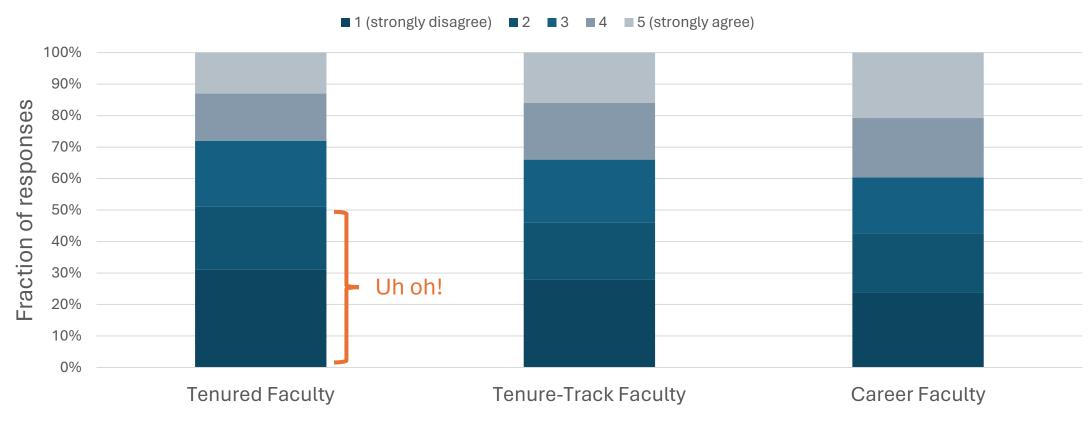




Source: IDEAL Climate Survey, Gallup

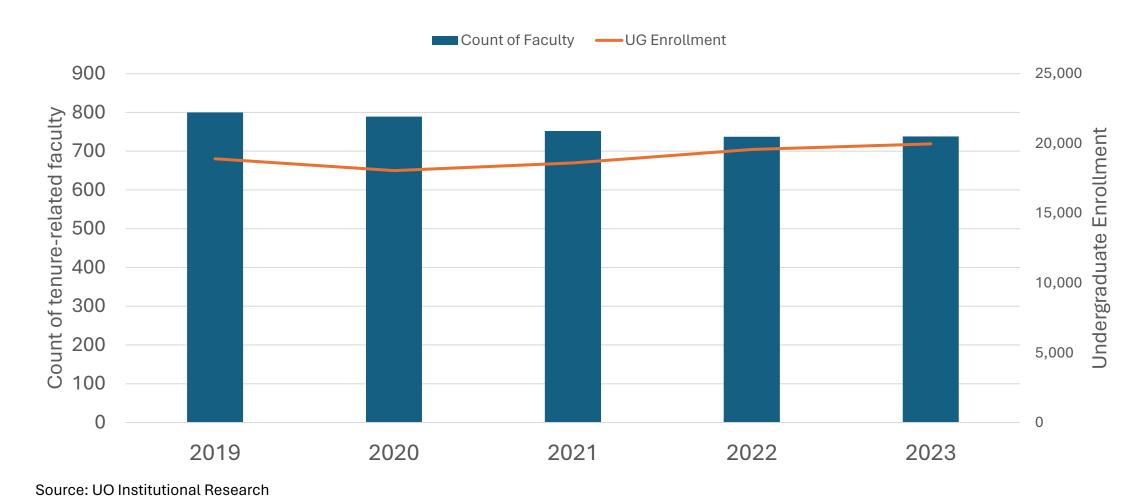
Thoughts about leaving are common

"I rarely think seriously about leaving UO to work somewhere else."



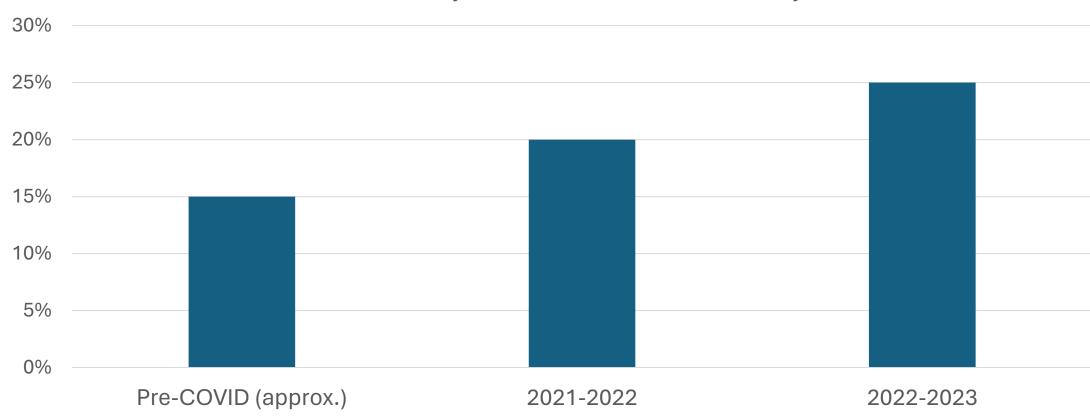
Source: IDEAL Climate Survey, Gallup

UO has been losing tenure-related faculty even as undergraduate enrollment has increased



Our tenure-related searches have been failing at an increasing rate post-COVID

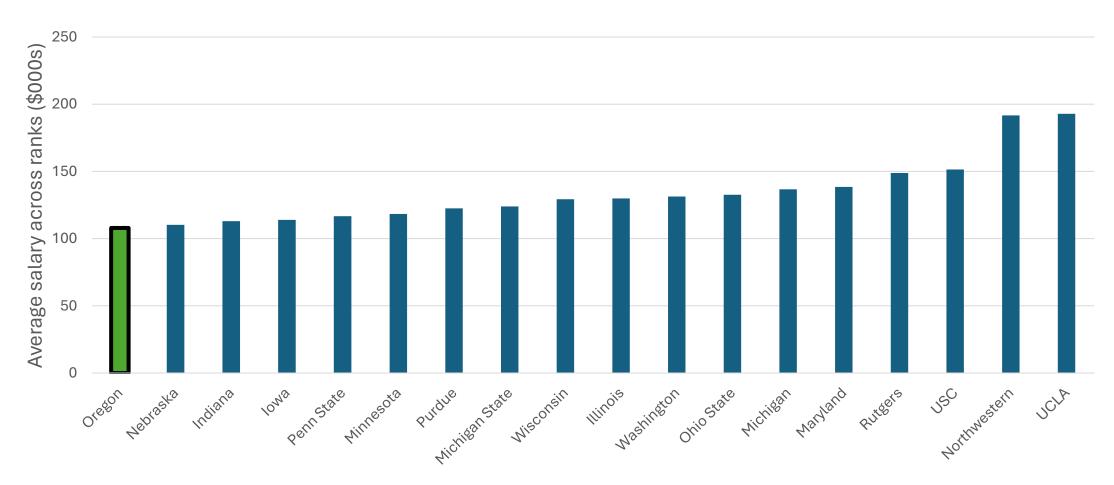




Source: UO Institutional Hiring Plans. "Pre-COVID" refers to the average of 2017-2020.

There are many potential causes for this situation, but we cannot ignore our low salaries

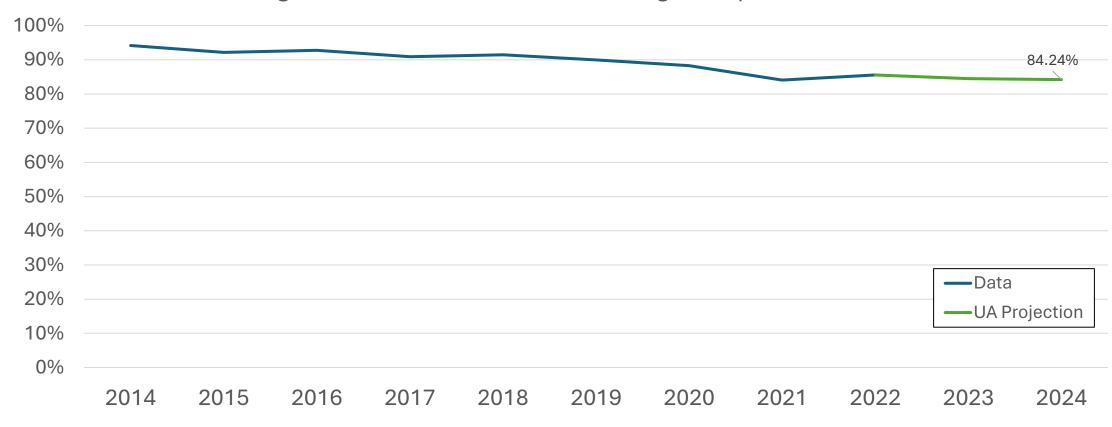
For example: UO salaries are at the **bottom** of the Big 10



Source: American Association of University Professors Faculty Compensation Survey for 2022-2023.

The gap between UO faculty and our AAU public peers is widening

Average UO salaries as a fraction of average AAU public salaries



Source: UO Institutional Research Salary Comparison data. UA Projection formed using contractual raises and average AAU-Public growth rate.

The market is speaking: "Salaries are too low!"

UA's proposal brings salaries up to the average of our peers

Arguably, they should be "a bit" higher than average to be "competitive", but let's start there and see how it goes.

Closing the gap in three years requires investments of 9.4% each year

Calculation (and proposal) assumes 3.3% annual growth rate in AAU Public salaries based on average growth over past decade

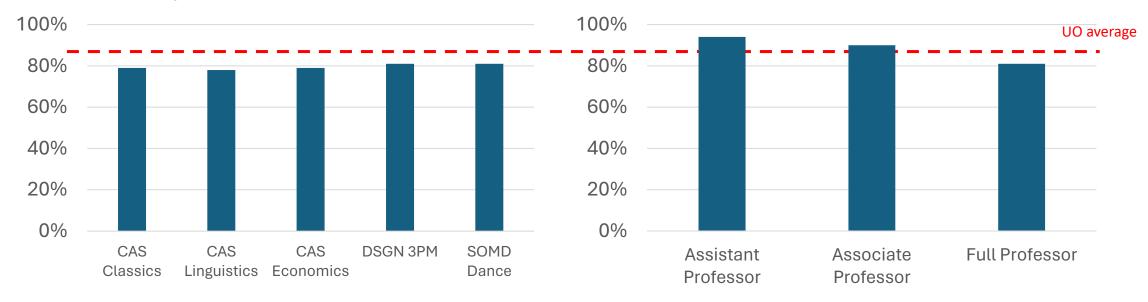
We allocate some of those resources toward merit and fixing some long-standing equity issues

Department-level inequities

Average UO salaries as a fraction of average AAU public salaries, selected departments, 2022-2023

Rank-level inequities

Average UO salaries as a fraction of average AAU public salaries, by rank, 2022-2023, CAS Humanities



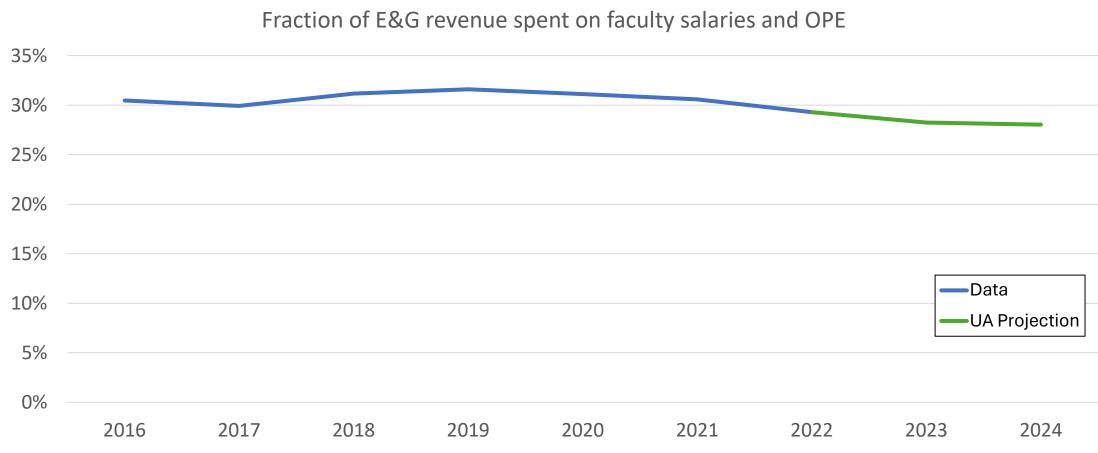
This proposal increases faculty costs by approx. \$57.6 million by the end of the contract

Year	2024	2025	2026	2027
Wage bill	\$122.5	\$134.1	\$146.7	\$160.5
OPE	\$63.6	\$69.6	\$76.1	\$83.7
Total	\$186.2	\$203.7	\$222.8	\$243.7
Increase		\$17.5	\$36.6	\$57.6
from 2024				

Notes: All dollars are millions. Years are fiscal years. Assumes constant number of Tenure-related and Career faculty. Assumes OPE rate of 51.9%. FY 2024 costs are approximate and calculated from UO's 2022-2023 AAUDE submission using contractual raises.

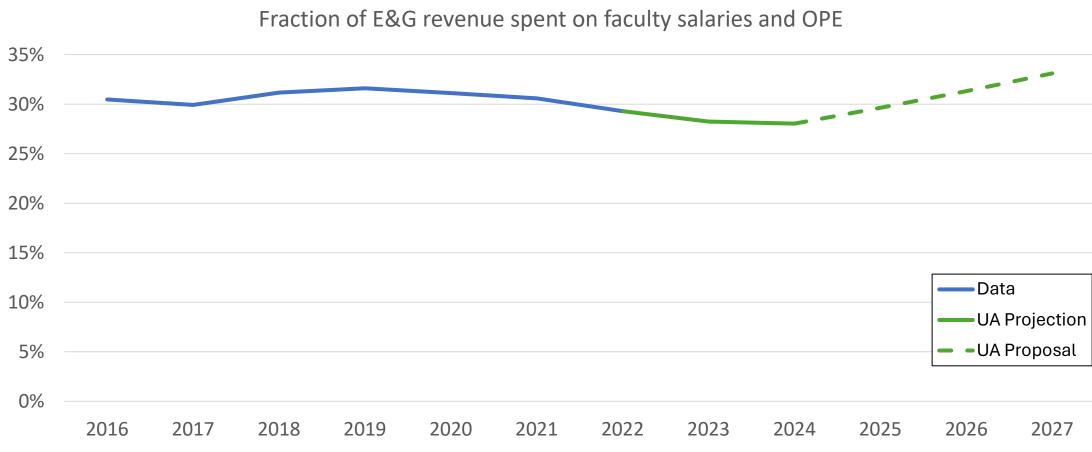
Can the university afford this proposal?

Historically, UO spent >30% of E&G revenue on faculty compensation, but that has declined in recent years



Notes: E&G revenue from University projections for 2023. For 2024, assumes 3.30% growth rate (average increase from 2016-2023). Faculty compensation bill includes contractual raises and assumes constant FTE starting from 2022-2023 AAUDE submission.

Our proposal would result in reasonable costs



Notes: E&G revenue assumes 3.30% growth rate from 2024 onwards (average increase from 2016-2023). Faculty compensation bill includes contractual raises and assumes constant FTE starting from 2022-2023 AAUDE submission.

Summary: United Academics' salary proposal

- We are asking to be paid the average of our peers
- We can get there with investments of 9.4% in each of the next three years
- We allocate some resources to a merit pool and some to work toward fixing long-standing internal and external equity issues
- The University can afford this proposal without breaking the bank