



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

April 1, 2021

Governor Kate Brown
c/o Lindsey Capps, Chief Education Officer
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-4047
Via Electronic Mail Only

Dear Governor Brown:

I'm writing to provide you a letter of endorsement for the faculty position on the University of Oregon Board of Trustees on behalf of the University Senate. This letter is the result of an endorsement process that the Senate has followed as described in Appendix A.

The Senate met with applicants to the position in our meeting on March 10th. In that meeting, applicants presented remarks and responded to written questions from Senators. The Senate also had the opportunity to review materials from each of the applicants. The applicants are:

- Ed Madison, Associate Professor, School of Journalism and Communication
- Kiersten Muenchinger, Associate Professor, Product Design
- Carol Paty, Associate Professor, Department of Earth Sciences and Clark Honors College
- T. Bettina Cornwell, Professor, Marketing
- Barbara Mossberg, Professor of Practice, Literature and Clark Honors College

Shortly after the March 10th Senate meeting, Senators cast a rank-order vote of their preferences. A summary of the vote is as follows and a complete tally of the vote is shown in Appendix B.

- Twenty-eight of the fifty-three eligible voting members cast a vote.
- All candidates received at least four first-choice votes.
- All candidates received at least two last-choice votes.
- Madison received the most first- and second-choice votes.
- Muenchinger and Paty received the next-most support.

Per the process, the Senate's Executive Committee approved this letter on March 31, 2021 and the full Senate will vote to approve this letter in its April 7, 2021 meeting. The Senate President will send an update with the result of that vote. However, the result and summary of the vote of the Senate will not change in our discussion and vote on April 7, 2021.

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1715 Franklin Blvd, Eugene OR 97403 T (541) 346-4439

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Thank you for considering our endorsement in this matter. Please refer any comments or questions about our process and vote to Senate President Elliot Berkman, senatepres@uoregon.edu.

- Members of the University of Oregon Senate Executive Committee

CC: See Eun Kim, Executive Appointments Director
Kristina Rice-Whitlow, Executive Appointments Manager

Enclosures: Appendix A – Faculty Trustee Endorsement Process
Appendix B – Senate Vote Summary

Faculty Trustee Endorsement Process

University Senate

November 25, 2020

Rationale

The faculty trustee position on the UO's Board of Trustees is up for appointment for a term beginning July 1, 2021.¹ The Governor appoints, subject to State Senate confirmation, a faculty member to this position for a two year term. The Governor selects among faculty who applied with her office to be a trustee and considers endorsements in her decision. As the designated representatives of the statutory faculty, the University Senate should have a voice in this process. This document describes the process by which the University Senate endorses an applicant on behalf of the statutory faculty.

Procedure for University Senate Endorsement

Senate Leadership will work with the University Secretary to obtain a complete list of faculty who applied for the position and their application materials as close to the deadline for application as possible².

1. Open Senate Discussion on the Faculty Trustee Role and Priorities of the Faculty

The Senate will hold at least one open discussion about preferred qualifications for the faculty member holding the seat and the priorities the statutory faculty might have in making an endorsement for this appointment.

2. Application Review

The Senate will review the full applications submitted to the Governor's office.

3. Endorsement Ranking Process

To establish an endorsement ranking, all voting Senators will participate in a rank-order vote of the full list of faculty applicants. The vote will take place via electronic survey. The Senate Executive Coordinator will tabulate the results using weights by rank (i.e., 1st place vote gets the heaviest weight, 2nd place vote gets the second heaviest, and so forth). The Senate Executive Committee will then draft a resolution that highlights the results from the survey, thereby providing a formal vehicle for the full Senate to put its endorsement on the process through a vote as described in Step 4.

¹ The Board of Trustees' website will be updated in early October with additional information about the 2020-2021 appointment cycle, including how individuals can apply for a position through the governor's office.

² It is likely that the deadline to apply will be in early or mid-March, but that deadline has not yet been established by the Governor's office. The Board's website will be updated as soon as it is established.

4. Full Senate Votes To Pass The Resolution Recommending Candidates

The Senate will consider and vote on the Senate Executive Committee's recommendations in the form of a motion that will formally present the Senate's view to the Governor.

5. Presentation of Results to the Governor's Office

Based on the result of the Senate vote, the Senate President and Vice President will send an endorsement letter to the Governor on behalf of the Senate.

Draft Timeline (Exact Dates TBD Based on Gubernatorially-Set Deadlines)

Early Fall term: Publicize the open position; recruit interested faculty candidates.

Dec 2 / Jan 13 Senate meeting: Open discussion about the board and the preferred qualifications of the faculty seat. Current Faculty trustee will be invited and will share.

March 10 Senate meeting: Faculty applicants invited to present to the senate.

March 11-12: Executive Committee polls the senators regarding their preferred candidates. Executive Committee drafts a resolution of endorsement and submits to the senate secretary.

Mid-March TBD (tentative): Applications due to the Governor's office.

April 7 Senate meeting: Senate votes on resolution of endorsement. Senate Leadership sends the copy of the resolution to Governor's office.

Late April: Governor evaluates applicants and selects a nominee; State Senate holds confirmation hearing and votes.

July 1: Term begins.

Appendix B. Number of votes cast per candidate

	1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice	4th choice	5th choice	<i>Higher = More preferred</i> Weighted Total	Average Rank
Madison	8	7	5	4	4	95	3.39
Muenchinger	4	5	11	5	2	85	3.15
Paty	5	6	5	7	4	82	3.04
Cornwell	6	5	2	6	8	76	2.81
Mossberg	5	5	4	5	9	76	2.71

Note. "Weighted Total" is calculated as: 5x number of first-choice votes + 4x number of second-choice votes + 3x number of third-choice votes, and so forth. "Average Rank" is the average rank across the 28 votes cast, with higher numbers indicating more preferred (e.g., an average rank of "5" would indicate a candidate was the top preference for all voters).