



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

**Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting  
November 3, 2014**

**1:00 PM – Public Meeting – Ford Alumni Center, Room 402**

1. Convene
2. Review of draft Mission Statement and consideration of approval (Action)
3. Adjourn

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

6227 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1266 T (541) 346-3166 [trustees.uoregon.edu](http://trustees.uoregon.edu)

*An equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act*

**Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon**

**Resolution: Adoption of a Revised University Mission Statement**

Whereas, the University of Oregon benefits from having a well-written and thoughtful mission statement that articulates its purpose and direction;

Whereas, the University of Oregon has engaged the campus community and the public to draft an updated mission statement that carries the school into the future;

Whereas, an updated mission statement was crafted after web-based public input, public meetings, and in depth discussions with academic leadership;

Whereas, ORS 352.089(2) requires the Board of Trustees to adopt a mission statement for the University of Oregon and forward that statement to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for the Commission’s review; and

Whereas, the Board’s Policy on Committees authorizes the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to refer matters to the full Board of Trustees as a seconded motion;

Now, therefore, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Oregon hereby refers the revised mission statement attached hereto as Exhibit A to the Board of Trustees as a seconded motion, recommending its adoption and submission to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Chapa, Rudy</b>		
<b>Coltrane, Scott</b>		
<b>Curry, Ann</b>		
<b>Ford, Allyn</b>		
<b>Wilcox, Mary - Chair</b>		
<b>Willcox, Kurt</b>		
<b>[Student Position Vacant]</b>	--	--

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

**Exhibit A**  
**Revised UO Draft Mission Statement**

**Mission Statement**

The University of Oregon is a comprehensive public research university committed to exceptional teaching, discovery, and service. We work at a human scale to generate big ideas. As a community of scholars, we help individuals question critically, think logically, reason effectively, communicate clearly, act creatively, and live ethically.

**Purpose**

We strive for excellence in teaching, research, artistic expression, and the generation, dissemination, preservation, and application of knowledge. We are devoted to educating the whole person, and to fostering the next generation of transformational leaders and informed participants in the global community. Through these pursuits, we enhance the social, cultural, physical, and economic wellbeing of Oregon, the nation, and the world.

**Vision**

We aspire to be a preeminent and innovative public research university encompassing the humanities and arts, the natural and social sciences, and the professions. We seek to enrich the human condition through collaboration, teaching, mentoring, scholarship, experiential learning, creative inquiry, scientific discovery, outreach, and public service.

**Values**

We value the passions, aspirations, individuality, and success of the students, faculty, and staff who work and learn here.

We value academic freedom, creative expression, and intellectual discourse.

We value our diversity and seek to foster equity and inclusion in a welcoming, safe, and respectful community.

We value the outstanding quality of life provided by the distinct geography, history, and culture of our unique location in Oregon.

We value our shared charge to steward resources sustainably and responsibly.



## 2014 Revised Mission Statement (CURRENT/November Draft)

### **Mission Statement**

The University of Oregon is a comprehensive public research university committed to exceptional teaching, discovery, and service. We work at a human scale to generate big ideas. As a community of scholars, we help individuals question critically, think logically, reason effectively, communicate clearly, act creatively, and live ethically.

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### **Vision**

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## 2014 Revised Mission Statement (September Draft)

### Preamble

This mission statement communicates who we are, what we stand for, and where we are going. For those who teach, work, and learn here, this statement informs decision making, helps build unity and focus, and inspires performance. These beliefs define us and encourage broad engagement.

### Vision – What is our aspiration?

Leading, defining, enriching.

- Lead  
*We aspire to lead as a preeminent public residential research university encompassing the humanities and arts, the natural and social sciences, and the professions.*
- Define  
*We seek definition through the recognition of the quality of our schools and colleges, the aspirations, passions, and success of our students, and our place in Oregon, the West, on the Pacific Rim, and the world.*
- Enrich  
*We are motivated by a strong desire to explore and enrich the human condition and transform lives through collaboration, teaching, mentoring, research, creative activity, and service.*

### Purpose – What do we want to accomplish?

Pursue excellence, educate, and create a better way.

- Pursue excellence  
*We pursue excellence in all we do, in education, creative expression, and the preservation, generation dissemination, and application of knowledge.*
- Educate leaders  
*We believe in educating the whole person, and in educating transformational leaders and informed participants in the global community.*
- Create a better way  
*Our teaching, research and service enhance the social, cultural, physical and economic wellbeing of Oregon, the nation, and the world.*

### Values – What guides us?

- Inspiration  
*We strive to inspire students, each other, and the community.*
- Engagement  
*We model and teach agile, visionary thinking in a comprehensive range of fields to foster informed engagement.*
- Progressiveness  
*We embrace both the traditions of our campus and the challenges of the future.*
- Inclusion  
*We are committed to welcoming, embracing and providing opportunity for all.*
- Community  
*We work diligently to foster a university that prizes integrity, equity, and sustainability in a safe and respectful environment.*

## Current Mission Statement (Existing / Pre-Changes)

### Our Mission

SERVING THE STATE, NATION AND WORLD SINCE 1876

The University of Oregon is a comprehensive research university that serves its students and the people of Oregon, the nation, and the world through the creation and transfer of knowledge in the liberal arts, the natural and social sciences, and the professions. It is the Association of American Universities' flagship institution of the Oregon University System.

The university is a community of scholars dedicated to the highest standards of academic inquiry, learning, and service. Recognizing that knowledge is the fundamental wealth of civilization, the university strives to enrich the public that sustains it through:

- *a commitment to undergraduate education, with a goal of helping the individual learn to question critically, think logically, communicate clearly, act creatively, and live ethically*
- *a commitment to graduate education to develop creators and innovators who will generate new knowledge and shape experience for the benefit of humanity*
- *a recognition that research, both basic and applied, is essential to the intellectual health of the university, as well as to the enrichment of the lives of Oregonians, by energizing the state's economic, cultural, and political structure*
- *the establishment of a framework for lifelong learning that leads to productive careers and to the enduring joy of inquiry*
- *the integration of teaching, research, and service as mutually enriching enterprises that together accomplish the university's mission and support its spirit of community*
- *the acceptance of the challenge of an evolving social, political, and technological environment by welcoming and guiding change rather than reacting to it*
- *a dedication to the principles of equality of opportunity and freedom from unfair discrimination for all members of the university community and an acceptance of true diversity as an affirmation of individual identity within a welcoming community*
- *a commitment to international awareness and understanding, and to the development of a faculty and student body that are capable of participating effectively in a global society*
- *the conviction that freedom of thought and expression is the bedrock principle on which university activity is based*
- *the cultivation of an attitude toward citizenship that fosters a caring, supportive atmosphere on campus and the wise exercise of civic responsibilities and individual judgment throughout life*
- *a continuing commitment to affordable public higher education*

2014 Revised Mission Statement  
(Current/November draft w/ redline changes from October)

### **Mission Statement**

The University of Oregon is a comprehensive public research university committed to teaching, discovery, and service, ~~and finding a better way.~~ We work at a human scale to generate big ideas. ~~We are~~As a community of scholars, we help ~~dedicated to helping~~ individuals question critically, think logically, communicate clearly, act creatively, and live ethically.

### **Purpose**

We pursue/strive for excellence in teaching, research, artistic expression, and the generation, dissemination, preservation, and application of knowledge. We are devoted to educating the whole person, and to creating/fostering the next generation of transformational leaders and informed participants in the global community. Through these pursuits, we enhance the social, cultural, physical, and economic wellbeing of Oregon, the nation, and the world.

### **Vision**

We aspire to be lead as a preeminent and innovative public ~~residential~~ research university encompassing the humanities and arts, the natural and social sciences, and the professions. We seek to enrich the human condition through collaboration, teaching, mentoring, scholarship, experiential learning, creative inquiry, scientific discovery, outreach, and public service.

### **Values**

We value the passions, aspirations, ~~passions~~individuality, and success of the students, faculty, and staff ~~all~~ who work and learn here.

We value ~~the pursuit of~~ academic freedom, creative expression, and intellectual discourse.

We value our diversity and seek to foster equity and inclusion in a welcoming, safe, and respectful community.

~~We value the innovation, collaboration, and experiential learning in our schools and colleges.~~

~~We value our diversity and seek to foster equity and inclusion in a welcoming, safe, and respectful community.~~

We value the outstanding quality of life provided by the ~~unique~~ distinct geography, history, and culture of our ~~place~~ unique location in Oregon.

We value our shared charge ~~responsibility~~ to steward resources sustainably and ethically.