



MEMORANDUM

May 8, 2015

TO: Deans and Department Heads

FROM: Susan Gary

RE: UO Board of Trustees – Faculty Discussions

I am writing in my capacity as a trustee on the UO Board of Trustees. Part of my role as a trustee from the faculty is to help the other trustees understand what faculty do and to help the trustees learn about the concerns and issues the faculty have. At the March Board meeting I helped organize small groups of faculty to meet with trustees for informal discussions. These discussions proved to be interesting and valuable for the trustees, and I hope they were equally interesting and valuable for the faculty who participated.

The Board was enthusiastic about the discussion meetings and would like to continue to carve out time to meet with faculty at future Board meetings. It's now time to ask for faculty participants for the June meeting. The faculty discussions will take place from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm on Friday, June 5, 2015.

If you are interested in participating in one of these discussions, please email Amanda Hatch in the Board's office (ahatch@uoregon.edu) no later than May 25, 2015. Please include your name, phone number, department or program, and years of service. We will try to organize the groups with a mix of faculty in terms of disciplines and time at the university. Tenure-line faculty, non-tenure track faculty, librarians with faculty appointments, and research faculty are all welcome to participate.

Last time everyone who signed up was able to participate. If we get a larger number this time it is possible that some faculty will be asked to join a discussion session at the September meeting. Priority will be given to faculty who have not participated in prior discussions.

These meetings will not be public meetings (there will not be a quorum present), so faculty and trustees should feel able to share their thoughts and concerns about the University more directly. Each discussion group will consist of two trustees and 8-12 faculty members (depending on the number of faculty who want to participate).

I have been impressed with the enthusiasm of all of the trustees and their desire to help strengthen the University. I think these discussions will continue to be a great way for the trustees and faculty members to learn more about each other and share ideas about the University.