

MEMORANDUM

May 8, 2015

TO: University of Oregon Staff

FROM: Kurt Willcox, Nonfaculty Staff Trustee

RE: Staff Discussions with the Board of Trustees

I'm writing to you as the nonfaculty staff member on the University of Oregon Board of Trustees. The Board recently began holding small, informal discussions with groups of university employees so trustees can get to know and engage with us more directly. In March, trustees met with students and faculty members. In June, the Board would like to visit with nonfaculty staff from across the campus – and you're invited.

The goal of these small group meetings is to build relationships while also sharing information on the priorities, challenges, and opportunities facing both trustees and university employees. Most importantly, these conversations will provide trustees with the opportunity to hear directly about the many ways we employees work to support and strengthen the university.

Each meeting will include 2-3 trustees and 8-12 employees depending on how many people sign up. We are inviting all nonfaculty staff – OAs and classified employees - to attend so we can hear as wide a range of perspectives as possible. There will be one set of meetings for OAs and another set for classified staff.

These meetings will take place on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>June 4</u>, <u>from 12:15-1:15 pm in the Ford Alumni Center</u>. We know this will be during the lunch hour for most of you, so you are very welcome to bring your lunch! If necessary, Board staff will work with the supervisors of employees who would normally be working during this time to attempt to arrange for your participation.

If you would like to take part, please send an email no later than May 25 to Amanda Hatch in the Board's office (ahatch@uoregon.edu). Please include your name, phone number, job classification, department or program, and years of service. Amanda will notify those taking part as soon as possible.

Regrettably, we are likely to receive more requests to participate than we can accommodate. If that's the case, priority will be given to those with whom Board members have not yet interacted. Amanda will hold onto the names of those we can't fit in this time for future opportunities. If you can't attend in June, but want to be included in the future, please reply by May 25 and let Amanda know that.

Thanks so much. We had very informative meetings with students and faculty in March. We expect these June discussions will be a great way for the trustees and nonfaculty staff members to learn more about each other and share ideas about the University.

Thank you.