



EASTERN OREGON
UNIVERSITY



**POSITION PROFILE
VICE PRESIDENT FOR
STUDENT AFFAIRS
2024**

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DISCOVER THE EASTERN EDGE

Eastern Oregon University invites nominations and applications to be Vice President for Student Affairs

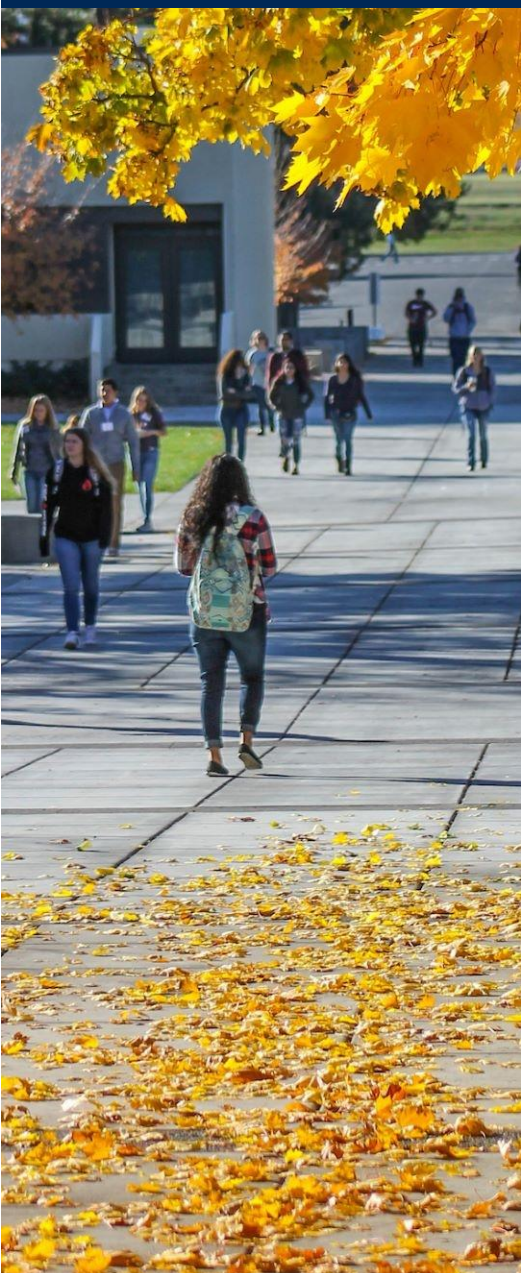
Eastern Oregon University (EOU) seeks an energetic and creative student affairs leader. The Vice President for Student Affairs will foster collaboration across the University to support student development, foster student success, and create an exciting and inclusive academic and social environment for all EOU students.

The Vice President for Student Affairs will join a leadership team that is committed to innovation to serve students in a beautiful campus setting, through online programs, and at sites throughout the state. EOU serves rural Oregon and beyond with a broad range of programs in the arts, humanities, social sciences, business, education, science, technology, and health science.

Designated by the state as Oregon's Rural University, EOU has pioneered online instruction and satellite student services centers to bring educational and career opportunities to the entire eastern Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and southeast Washington region.



ABOUT EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY



OREGON'S RURAL UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1929 and nestled in the Grande Ronde Valley at the base of the picturesque Blue Mountains, [Eastern Oregon University](#) is one of the seven state-supported four-year institutions in Oregon, and the only institution on the [eastern side of the state](#).

EOU serves a diverse community of students drawn principally from the intermountain northwest, but with a decades-long tradition of serving students from Micronesia. In addition, EOU was a national pioneer in distance education starting in the 1980s and now provides extensive online learning opportunities for students around the world. The University partners with communities and community colleges throughout the state to provide service access points for students in both urban and rural areas.

EOU's intimate academic learning environments rank high in several national publications as "Best" – best in value, best in quality, and best for students. EOU's faculty and staff are passionate about higher education and excel in understanding and addressing the educational needs of students.

MISSION STATEMENT

Eastern Oregon University guides student inquiry through integrated, high-quality liberal arts and professional programs that lead to responsible and reflective action in a diverse and interconnected world.

As an educational, cultural, and scholarly center, EOU connects the rural regions of Oregon to a wider world. Its beautiful setting and small size enhance the personal attention its students receive, while partnerships with colleges, universities, agencies, and communities add to the educational possibilities of the region and state.

LEADERSHIP

Following her unanimous election by the EOU Board of Trustees in May 2023, **Dr. Kelly A. Ryan** began her service as President of the University on July 1, 2023.

Accomplished in the practice and teaching of history, she is the author of two scholarly books: *Regulating Passions* and *Everyday Crimes*. Dr. Ryan's career in higher education administration and leadership spans roles as department coordinator, dean, executive vice chancellor for academic affairs, and Interim Chancellor, all at Indiana University Southeast in New Albany, Indiana.



Dr. Ryan is passionate about the power of higher education to transform lives. Her leadership vision places student success and community engagement at the center of her work.



EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

IN BRIEF

STUDENTS (Fall 2023)

- Total headcount enrollment: 2,798; 1,582 are enrolled as full-time students; 1,216 are enrolled as part-time students, many of whom are studying online; 39% are from Eastern Oregon
- 267 new first-year students enrolled at EOU in fall 2023; 43% of new first-year students are from Eastern Oregon
- 380 new transfer students enrolled at EOU in fall 2023. 20% of new transfer students are from Eastern Oregon
- 30% are first-generation college students
- 31% are Pell-eligible students
- 28% are racially or ethnically diverse
- 7% are under the age of 18; 24% are 18-21 years old; 26% are 21-24 years old; 21% are 25-34 years old; 22% are over 35 years old
- 69% are Oregon residents; 31% are non-residents

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The University's liberal arts and professional programs are of high quality. Programs offered by the College of Education; College of Business; College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; and College of Science, Technology, Mathematics, and Health Science include undergraduate degrees offered on-campus and online, and graduate programs offered in online and in hybrid modes. Additional graduate offerings are being developed. In addition, the University offers certificate programs, pre-professional programs, and partnership programs with Oregon State University (agricultural sciences, rangeland science) and Oregon Health Sciences University (nursing).

ACCREDITATION

EOU is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). The next NWCCU evaluation will be in the fall of 2025. Teacher preparation programs in the College of Education are accredited by the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation. Programs in the College of Business are accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education.

ACCOLADES

EOU regularly receives state, regional, and national recognition for the quality, value, and accessibility of its academic programs. It has recently been named a College of Distinction (2021-22) and a Military Friendly Top 10 School (2022-23).

See a fuller listing of EOU distinctions here: <https://www.eou.edu/beta-trophy/>.

CAMPUS LIFE

Student Organizations. Students at EOU are active in organizations focused on academic majors, career objectives, leadership development, social and political issues, and outdoor recreation. The Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University provides a voice for students and an avenue for student participation in important decisions.

Residence Life and Dining Services. Many full-time students at EOU reside in residence halls. First year students and international students in their first year in the United States are required to live in residence halls. Sodexo provides food service for students, faculty, and staff.

Student Well-Being. EOU's Student Health and Counseling Center provides services to support the physical and mental health of EOU students.

Athletics. EOU offers 15 varsity sports for men (baseball, basketball, cross country, football, soccer, track and field, wrestling) and women (basketball, cross country, lacrosse, soccer, softball, track and field, volleyball, wrestling). EOU is a member of the [Cascade Collegiate Conference](#) and the [Frontier Conference](#) (football). The athletics program regularly earns recognition and accolades from the Champions of Character program of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).



An aerial photograph of the Eastern Oregon University campus, showing various buildings, green lawns, and parking areas. A large yellow banner with blue text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

THE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

THE ROLE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) serves as the senior student affairs officer for the University and reports directly to the President and is a member of the President's Cabinet. The Vice President has overall responsibility for providing leadership, management, and supervision for the staff of the Division of Student Affairs.

The Vice President:

- Provides leadership and guidance to the members of the Division of Student Affairs, providing both a strategic framework and effective direction to the Student Affairs staff;
- Serving on the President's Cabinet, the VPSA collaborates with the President, Provost, other Vice Presidents, Deans, and Directors to create and execute programs that foster cohesion and alignment between the curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular experiences of students;
- Recommends, develops, and implements student affairs policies, procedures, and practices that foster student learning and development;
- Leads with use of data, assessment, and evaluation in development and continuous improvement of programs and services;
- Responds to and manages student crises and complaints;
- Is a campus champion and leader for efforts to improve student retention, foster academic success, and increase graduation rates;
- Exemplifies and supports EOU's commitment to extending educational access to underrepresented populations and is a champion of inclusive excellence at the University;
- Ensures that the University provides students enriching opportunities to develop their leadership abilities;
- Supports students in defining and pursuing their career objectives;
- Promotes a safe, inclusive, and welcoming community that fosters a strong sense of belonging for students;
- Is committed to providing a premier residential living community that promotes student success.

The VPSA leads the work of staff in the following programs and units:

- Center for Student Involvement & Leadership
- Student Success & Transition
- Counseling Center/Student Health Center
- Student Relations (student conduct/ombudsman)
- International Programs and Study Abroad
- Learning Center
- Testing Center
- Career Services Center
- Student Disability Services
- First Year Experience Program
- Housing and Residence Life
- Student Orientation Programs
- Outdoor Adventure Program
- Title IX, ADA, and Clery Compliance
- Behavioral Assessment Team

PRIORITIES FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

Focus on inclusive excellence. Many of EOU's students must overcome substantial obstacles to achieve educational and career success. The University has responded with a significant investment of institutional funds, and notable success in securing Federal Title III and State of Oregon grant funding, for programs designed to assist students who are the first in their families to attend college, are Pell-eligible, and are from groups that are underrepresented among college students. The University makes important contributions to educational access and social mobility in Oregon and beyond, and the next Vice President should support and energize inclusion and student success efforts at EOU.

Build and strengthen partnerships across the campus to enhance student retention and foster student success. The Student Affairs staff must work closely with key administrators and the faculty to recruit, support, and retain students at EOU. The VPSA will lead with "heart and head," being both an enthusiastic advocate for student success and employing strong assessment practices to develop data-informed retention strategies.

Work to enhance the vitality of campus life. The VPSA will work to ensure that students enjoy an active campus life, featuring athletic contests, visual arts exhibits, performing arts events, lectures, student organization events, and organized outdoor experiences. The VPSA will partner with community leaders and organizations to maximize opportunities for student engagement and activities in La Grande and the region.

Serve a student body that reflects the University's comprehensive mission. The EOU community is rightly proud of its comprehensive academic program and its reach to serve the needs of many kinds of students. The University serves full-time students who reside on campus, commuters, and a growing number of students who study online. Students come from the rural Mountain West, from neighboring states, and from abroad. The VPSA must energize staff and colleagues across the University to understand and respond to the distinctive needs of these student groups and their individual members.

QUALIFICATIONS

EOU's next Vice President for Student Affairs will have extensive student affairs experience and demonstrate strong leadership credentials. Five years of experience at the executive management level (involving supervision of staff, leading strategic planning, significant budget authority) in student affairs/student services is required. This level of experience is demonstrated through:

- Supervision and development of staff;
- Leading planning and ensuring accountability for plan execution;
- Authority over and responsibility for use of an operating budget;
- Effective collaboration with supervisors, peers, and subordinates to achieve key goals;
- Significant and successful exercise of discretion and autonomy in making decisions.

A master's degree in student affairs, educational leadership, higher education management, a teaching discipline, counseling or a closely related field is required. A PhD/terminal degree in one of these fields is preferred.

DESIRED ATTRIBUTES

The next Vice President for Student Affairs will be:

- Visible on campus and an active participant in campus life activities;
- A “working manager,” able to create a vision but also willing to pitch in and work alongside staff and students;
- A leader in change management, active in assessing current practices and data-driven in making changes;
- Proactive in seeking guidance and support from the President and Cabinet colleagues in handling difficult issues; and
- Committed to transparent communication with the University community about student life issues.





HOW TO APPLY



Acceptance of inquiries, nominations, and applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search. Interested parties are encouraged to apply by March 3, 2024.

To apply online, go to:

<https://theapplicantmanager.com/jobs?pos=su400>

All applications and nominations will be held in confidence.

The Summit team managing this search includes:



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EOU is an EEO Employer and welcomes applications from women, members of historically underrepresented minority groups, US Veterans, and persons with disabilities. EOU is committed to providing equal opportunity in its recruitment, admissions, educational programs, activities, and employment without illegal discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, marital status, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or any status as protected by state or federal law.



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DISCOVER LA GRANDE, OREGON



La Grande, Oregon: Where modern amenities meet grand landscapes and exciting adventures to satisfy all the needs of the contemporary explorer. La Grande and Northeastern Oregon offer a way a life few communities can surpass. From superior healthcare systems and an excellent K-12 school system, to unique cultural experiences, La Grande is a basecamp for unforgettable experiences and unsurpassable community.

Nestled in the Grande Ronde Valley, the breathtaking views of the Blue and Wallowa Mountain ranges and the tranquil patchwork of farmland and park-like landscapes of La Grande's natural beauty never cease to dazzle the senses. EOU is four hours east of Portland and three hours west of Boise, Idaho, with close access to a regional airport in Pendleton, only forty minutes away.

Stemming from a deep agricultural history, La Grande boasts a thriving farmers market and a farm trail offering fresh goods all year long. La Grande is on an arts trail with plenty of artisan shops and visual and performing arts opportunities with multiple theaters and museums offering concerts, plays, exhibits, festivals and more.



Step out your backdoor and world-class outdoor recreation is accessible within minutes in any direction. The Mt. Emily Recreation Area offers nearly 100 miles of motorized and non-motorized trails. Across the valley, Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort offers a base elevation of 7,100 feet and some of the best (non-crowded) powder in the Northwest. If you are looking for Class III rapids, rock climbing, or just want to relax in hot springs, opportunities abound.

To learn more about this beautiful region:

City of LaGrande, Oregon:
<https://www.cityoflagrande.org/>

Travel Oregon:
<https://traveloregon.com/places-to-go/cities/la-grande/>





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