

2017 Executive Commercial Advisory Council Members



Ron Adams serves as Oregon State University's Senior Advisor to the President for Strategic Initiatives. As a member of the university's leadership team, Dr. Adams serves as the lead on developing strategic initiatives to advance the university's strategic plan, reporting directly to the President

Dr. Adams has held a number of administrative positions at OSU including Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Interim Vice President for Administration, Interim Vice President for Research, Executive Associate Vice President for Research, and Dean for the College of Engineering. Under Ron's leadership the College of Engineering doubled the size of its Ph.D. program, tripled its research funding and helped spin off more than a dozen companies.

Before returning to OSU as dean after a previous stint on the faculty, Adams worked at Tektronix for more than 14 years, including serving as vice president of technology and as a senior Tektronix fellow.

Adams earned his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from OSU and his M.S. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He served in the U.S. Air Force and worked at MIT Lincoln Labs before joining the OSU faculty as an assistant, and then associate professor of mechanical engineering. He took a leave from OSU to lead a team at Tektronix working on developing color printing technologies.



Dan Arp became Oregon State University's Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station in the spring of 2012. Prior to that he served as Dean of OSU's University Honors College (2008-2012) and head of OSU's Botany and Plant Pathology department (2004-2008). Arp earned a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Nebraska and his Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The College of Agricultural Sciences is Oregon's principal source of knowledge relating to agriculture and food systems, environmental quality, natural resources, rural economies and communities, and life sciences.



Scott A. Ashford is a Kearney Professor and Dean of the College of Engineering at Oregon State University. After graduating from Oregon State with a degree in civil engineering, he worked in private industry for seven years before earning his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. Ashford's research focuses on enhancing public safety and reducing potential economic loss worldwide from earthquake and coastal hazards. He works to improve the resilience of the lifeline systems in the Pacific Northwest to better withstand attack from the Cascadia Subduction Zone. Most recently, he has been appointed by Governor Kate Brown and confirmed by the Oregon State Senate to serve a four-year term on the Governing Board of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.



Darald "Darry" Callahan is the former executive vice president of Power, Chemicals, and Technology for ChevronTexaco Corp. His engineering career includes serving as President of Chevron Chemical Co., president of Chevron Oil Bahamas Ltd., and president of Warren Petroleum Co. Callahan currently serves on the Board of Trustees for OSU. He is an honorary OSU Foundation trustee, having served as chair of the OSU Foundation Board of Trustees and trustee liaison on the Harvey Ranch (OSU Animal Sciences) Corporate Board. Callahan is a former director of the Oklahoma Nature Conservancy. Mr. Callahan received a BS in Chemical Engineering from OSU.



Nicholas Fowler is a high technology industry veteran, serial entrepreneur, and active seed stage venture investor. Spanning 25 years with the Hewlett-Packard Company, Mr. Fowler led the creation of several major new businesses including notebook computers, personal digital assistants, printing services, and internet sales and support. He developed company strategies, created new business models, and managed large and complex global businesses. Following his HP career, Mr. Fowler established Orion Ventures, LLC, an investment fund providing seed stage investments that continues to make two to four investments per year. Mr. Fowler is Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Northwest Medical Isotopes, LLC, a startup assuring a domestic supply of critical medical isotopes; Founder, Chairman, and CEO of TryEco, LLC, a startup advancing novel, starch-based super absorbent polymer technology; and

Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Wave Sciences, LLC, a startup innovating signal processing technologies for audiology and security applications.



Steve Gomo (Current Chair) has served as a Director of SanDisk since December 2005. Mr. Gomo was Executive Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer from October 2004 until his retirement in December 2011, and Senior Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer from August 2002 to September 2004, at NetApp, Inc., a storage and data management company. Mr. Gomo was also Chief Financial Officer of Gemplus International S.A. from November 2000 to April 2002, Chief Financial Officer of Asera, Inc. from February 2000 to November 2000 and Chief Financial Officer of Silicon Graphics, Inc. from February 1998 to February 2000. Previously, Mr. Gomo spent 24 years at Hewlett-Packard Company serving in various finance, financial management, manufacturing and general management positions. Mr. Gomo has a B.S. in Business Administration from Oregon State University and an M.B.A. from Santa Clara University.



Mark Leid has been a pharmacology professor in the OSU College of Pharmacy since 1992. Leid also serves as Associate Dean for Research in the College of Pharmacy and holds an Affiliate Professorship in the OHSU School of Dentistry. He is actively involved in teaching endocrine pharmacology to both pharmacy and dental students, and his research laboratory is focused primarily on the regulation of gene expression during embryonic development and in disease. His laboratory has also developed and successfully commercialized several reagents for biological research.



Frank Morse earned degrees from Northwest Christian College and Oregon State University. He began his working career at Morse Bros. Inc. in 1972 as Manager of the Albany Division and progressed to the Presidency in 1980 a position he held until his retirement in 2000. Upon retirement, he co-founded Environ Metal Inc., a company that manufactures and distributes internationally Hevi-Shot hunting products. He serves as Chairman of the company. In 2002 he was elected to the Oregon State Senate and served until 2012.



Dr. Rod Ray is the former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Bend Research, Inc. (BRI), where he worked for over 30 years. BRI was purchased in 2014 by Capsugel, and Rod remains involved as a member of their Scientific and Business Advisory Board. During his time at Bend Research, Dr. Ray held numerous positions specializing in the development and commercialization of a wide range of products. He was instrumental in directing the management of large-scale programs to advance pharmaceutical compounds through the development process to commercialization, and served as the primary management contact for client companies. In addition to his expertise in advancing pharmaceutical processes and products, Dr. Ray has extensive experience in commercializing diverse products for the electronics, energy, medical, agricultural, and space industries. Rod is currently a consultant and board member for various pharmaceutical and technological companies, and specializes in Leadership Coaching and Strategic Planning.



Dave Underriner has been involved in health care administration for thirty years at Providence Health System in Oregon. He began his career with Providence in 1984 as director of physician relations, and over his time with Providence has held many management roles including Administrator of Providence Portland Medical Center, Chief Executive of the Portland Service Area, Chief Operating Officer for the Oregon Region, and his current role as Chief Executive of the Oregon Region.