



OAMR BOARD REPORT

Conference Location Rotation Proposal

Meeting Date: April 00, 2025

Contact: Scott Stauffer, Vice President

Source of Item: Events & Fundraising Committee (EFC)

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This report is to the Association Membership from the EFC, *at the direction of the Board*.

BACKGROUND

Where OAMR holds its conferences is a critical part of the association's ability to encourage attendance at these events that build the relationships members rely upon. Being the type of leaders who plan with a purpose, it is appropriate that, from time-to-time, the conference location rotation schedule is revisited and adjusted to meet the needs of current members.

OAMR's annual and mid-year conferences have always rotated to different venues and cities across the state; see Attachment A for the list of conference sites since 1994. For a long time, the association's seven regions took turn hosting conferences; from 2016 to 2020 conferences rotated between locations based on combined regions; during the COVID-19 pandemic the association canceled in-person conferences; and as the world went back to in-person gatherings, OAMR returned to the pre-pandemic conference location rotation based on combined regions.

In 2022, OAMR completed a multi-year strategic planning process and adopted a five-year [Strategic Plan](#). One of the issues noted in the Plan was the need to look at the location of association gatherings and starting in 2023, the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) discussed the location of OAMR's conferences. The topic gained momentum at the annual conference in September 2024 and in January 2025, after consulting the SPG and OAMR Board, President Kayla Duddy sent out a member survey seeking input on where conferences should be located; see Attachment B for survey results. Survey responses showed support for a multi-year rotation between designated areas of the state – specifically the coast, Willamette Valley, central Oregon, and Portland as well as eastern Oregon – instead of a rotation based on the seven regions.

Based on SPG and Board discussions and the results of the member survey, the co-chairs of the Events and Fundraising Committee (EFC) and Vice President Stauffer met to draft a conference rotation proposal. That proposal, outlined below, was presented to the EFC on February 24 and the committee's unanimous consensus was to recommend that the proposal be submitted to the Board for consideration.

On March 12 the Board considered the proposed conference location rotate proposal and agreed to refer the proposal for consideration by the Association Membership at a special meeting to be called by President Duddy in April 2025.

The EFC has requested a special membership meeting in April to consider this proposal so that the EFC Facilities Subcommittee has time to administer a request for proposals (RFP) process for 2027 conference sites. The responding bids for 2027 sites must be presented to the association at the September 2025 membership meeting during the annual conference.

The proposal now submitted to the membership is **a four-year rotation between set areas**, not specific regions, cities, or venues. This would give the EFC Facilities Subcommittee, which puts out a request for proposals (RFP) each year for the conference location for two years out, the necessary discretion to consider new venues and logistical considerations when seeking bids.

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The proposed areas, in the order in which they would come up, based on where conferences have been held to this point (keeping in mind that the 2025 conference is in Eugene and the 2026 conference is in Lincoln City), are:

1. **Central Oregon** (Bend, Redmond area) in 2027
2. **Other Locations** (eastern or southern Oregon, or Portland) in 2028
3. **Willamette Valley** (Eugene, Salem area) in 2029
4. **Oregon Coast** (Lincoln City, Newport, Seaside areas) in 2030

As OAMR has already selected the 2025 and 2026 conference locations, if adopted, the proposed conference location rotation would take effect with the 2027 conference. If adopted, the Facilities Subcommittee would initiate an RFP process for venues in central Oregon.

At its March 12 meeting, the Board also approved a motion to stop holding Mid-Year conferences in-person at a central location. Starting in 2026, Mid-Year academy sessions and Athenian Leadership Dialogues (ALDs) will be held virtually with regional in-person gatherings to participate in the virtual conference organized by region directors. This means that OAMR members will only travel to the conference location once and the association will only contract with conference venues for the in-person annual conference in September.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Any decision to change the conference location rotation schedule should be made by a vote of the association membership at a membership business meeting. At such a meeting, the members would be asked to approve a motion to adopt the new conference location rotation schedule.

By a majority vote, the Association Membership may choose to:

- A. Adopt the proposed motion, or
- B. Decline to adopt the proposed motion.

RECOMMENDATION

The EFC co-chairs, the vice president and president, with the support of the SPG and EFC, recommend that if the membership agree to adopt the proposal.

SUGGESTED MOTION

"I moved to adopt the proposed OAMR conference location rotation schedule, recommended by the SPG and EFC, effective with the 2027 conference."

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Annual Conference Sites
- B. Member Survey Results

#	YEAR	REGION	CITY	FACILITY	HOST RECORDER	CONFERENCE/EFC CHAIR(s)	OAMR PRESIDENT	OAMR VP	IIMC CONF SITE	NOTES
0	1983						-			
1	1984						Karen Goldman			
2	1985						Karen Goldman			
3	1986						Maureen Swaney			
4	1987						Ginger Morrison			
5	1988						LaQuita Stec			
6	1989						Jane McGarvin			
7	1990						Diana Nicolay-Biles			
8	1991						Shelley Jones			
9	1992						Vera Rojas			
10	1993						Elisa (Fritz) Olson		Orlando	
11	1994	I	Seaside	Shilo Oceanfront Resort	Saundra Jones	Leahnette York	Joan Williams		Ottawa	
12	1995	IV	Springfield	Red Lion Inn	Sheila Taucher	Traci Brace	Leahnette York		Louisville	
13	1996	VII	Pendleton	Red Lion Inn	Sandy Lund	Denise Carey	Traci Brace		Albuquerque	
14	1997	III	Salem	Quality Inn	Jean Lay	Randy Reed	Denise Carey		Buffalo	
15	1998	V	Coos Bay	Red Lion Inn	Joyce Jansen	Carol Weir	Carol Weir		Mobile	
16	1999	II	Beaverton	Greenwood Inn	Darleen Cogburn	Julie Krueger	Carol Weir		Ottawa	
17	2000	VI	Hood River	Hood River Inn	Anita	Sheila Cox	Julie Krueger		Netherlands	
18	2001	I	Astoria	Red Lion Inn	Linda Engbretson	Gail Waibel	Sheila Cox		Kansas City	
19	2002	IV	Canyonville	Seven Feathers	Vicky Rhea	Traci Davis	Gail Waibel		San Antonio	
20	2003	III	Newport	Best Western Agate Beach	Peggy Hawker	Debbie Jermann	Traci Davis		Columbus	VII & III switched for good
21	2004	VII	Pendleton	Red Lion Inn	Tori Ankrum	Sandra King	Debbie Jermann		Whistler	
22	2005	V	Newport	Best Western Agate Beach	Carol Weir	Peggy Hawker	Sandra King		St. Paul	Cottage Grove mess-up - Region III took it.
23	2006	II	Portland	Doubletree Lloyd Center	Denise Carey	Barb Christensen	Peggy Hawker		Anaheim	
24	2007	VI	The Dalles	Shilo Inn	Julie Krueger	Mary Feldman	Barb Christensen		New Orleans	
25	2008	V	Klamath Falls	Running Y Resort	Lisa Olson	Kathy Louie	Mary Feldman		Atlanta	No bids from region I - region V took it
26	2009	IV	Eugene	Valley River Inn	Mary Feldman	Angie Kellar	Kathy Louie		Chicago	
27	2010	III	Keizer	Renaissance Inn	Tracy Davis	Karin Johnson	Ruth Post		Reno	
28	2011	II	Portland	Embassy Suites Downtown	Karla Moore-Love	Tori Barnett	Karin Johnson		Nashville	Region II switched with region VII
29	2012	VII	Ontario	Holiday Inn	Tori Barnett	Stacie Cook	Tori Barnett		Portland	
30	2013	V	North Bend	The Mill Casino	JoAnn Thompson	Norma Alley	Stacie Cook		Atlantic City	
31	2014	VI	Bend	The Riverhouse	Robyn Christie	Amy Sowa	Norma Alley		Milwaukie, WI	
32	2015	I	Seaside	Seaside Conv.Ctr/Rivertide	Kim Jordan	Michele Eldridge	Amy Sowa	Michele Eldridge	Hartford, CO	
33	2016	IV & V	Ashland	Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites	Barb Christensen	Dale Shafer	Michele Eldridge	Dale Schafer	Omaha, NB	
34	2017	III	Newport	Best Western Agate Beach	Peggy Hawker	Debbie Hamilton	Dale Schafer	Debbie Hamilton	Montreal, Can	Start of the new OAMR rotation.
35	2018	I & II	Portland	Holiday Inn at the Airport	Carol Krager (Tigard)	Nicole Morris	Debbie Hamilton	Nicole Morris	Norfolk, VA	
36	2019	VI & VII	Bend	The Riverhouse	Robyn Christie	Melissa Keifer	Nicole Morris	Kathy Payne	Birmingham, AL	
37	2020	IV & V	Eugene	Valley River Inn*	(virtual conf/no host)	Cathy Steere	Kathy Payne	Angie Lanter	St. Louis, MO*	Virtual due to COVID
38	2021	III	"Newport"	Virtual	Peggy Hawker	Cathy Nelson	Angie Lanter	Cathy Nelson	Grand Rapids, MI	Virtual due to COVID
39	2022	III	Newport	Best Western Agate Beach	Peggy Hawker	Karin Johnson	Cathy Nelson	Karin Johnson	Little Rock, AR	
40	2023	III	Grand Ronde	Grand Ronde Hotel & Casino	Phyllis Bolman (Monmouth)	Nanci Sandoval	Karin Johnson	Nanci Sandoval	Minneapolis, MN	(Seaside hotel canceled)
41	2024	VI & VII	Pendleton	Wild Horse Casino	Donna Biggerstaff, Karen Howton	Kayla Duddy	Nanci Sandoval	Kayla Duddy	Calgary, Canada	
42	2025	IV & V	Eugene	Valley River Inn	Allyson Pulido, Katie LaSala	Krystal Stevens/Susan Reeves	Kayla Duddy	Scott Stauffer	St. Louis, MO	
43	2026	III	Lincoln City	Chinook Winds Casino	Jamie Young		Scott Stauffer		Reno, NV	
44	2027	(Central)								No Mid-Year location; virtual + regional in-person meet-ups.
45	2028	(Other)								
46	2029	(Valley)								
47	2030	(Coast)								
48	2031	(Central)								
49	2032	(Other)								
50	2033	(Valley)								
51	2034	(Coast)								

Name: OAMR Conference Locations

Dates: 01/21/2025 - 01/31/2025

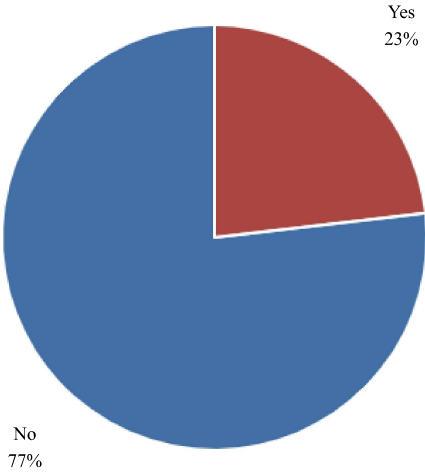
Associated Meeting: None

Anonymous? Yes

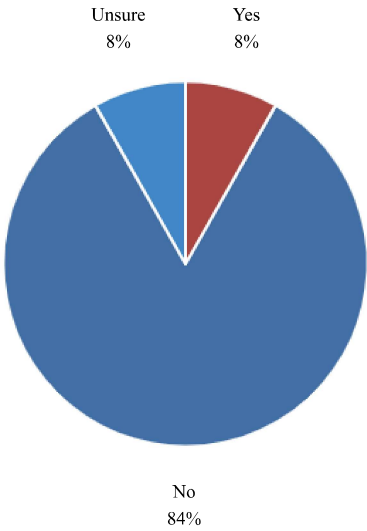
Restrictions:

Number of responses: 85

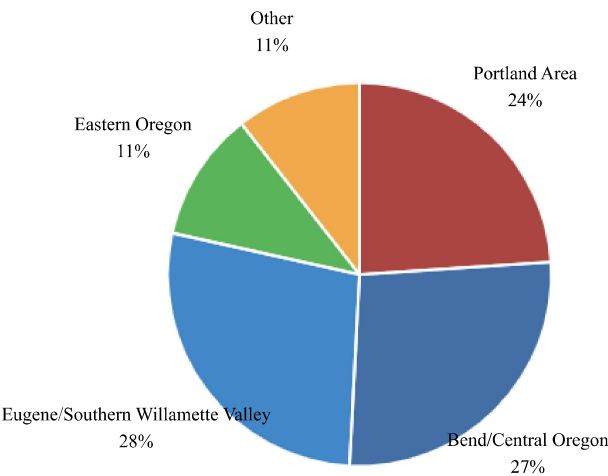
Would your city be interested in hosting the annual conference?



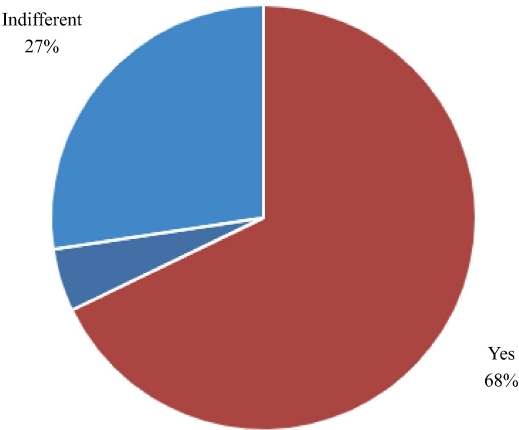
Does your city have the facilities to accommodate an annual conference (hotel accommodations, conference space)?



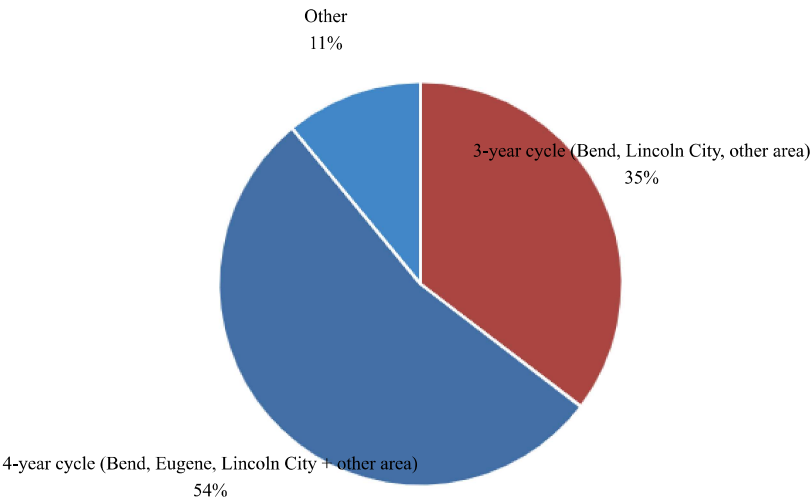
Which regions of Oregon are you most willing to travel to for an annual conference? (Select all that apply)



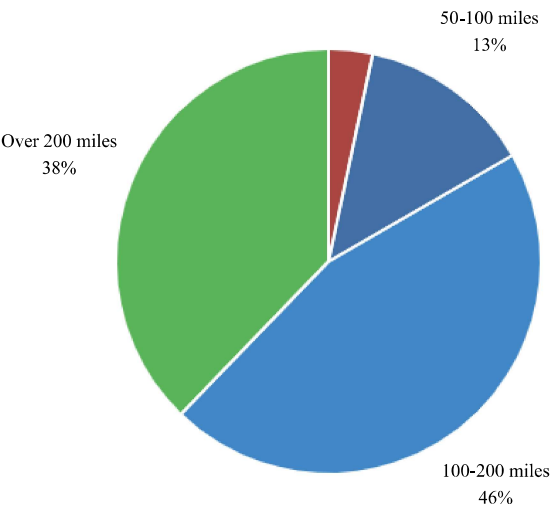
Do you support a rotating schedule of fixed locations for the annual conference (e.g., Bend, Eugene, Portland area, with an additional rotation including the coast or Eastern Oregon)? o
Yes



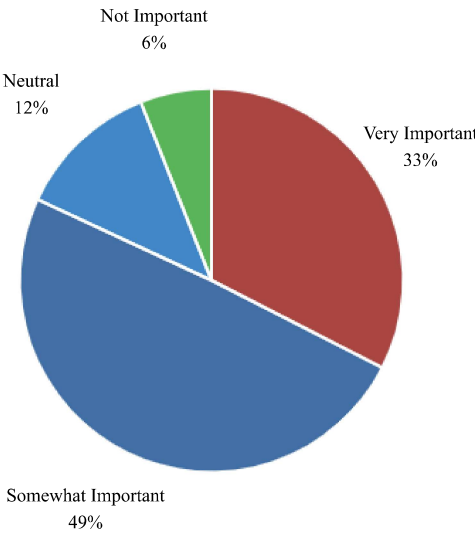
Which rotation schedule do you prefer for the annual conference locations?



What is the maximum distance you are willing to travel for an annual conference?



How important are travel and accommodation costs when deciding whether to attend the conference?



Would you be more likely to attend a conference if it were held in a consistent location (with potential discounts on accommodations)?

