

Emily Stevens
Media Spokesperson
541-901-9952
esteve10@uoregon.edu

Karl Scholz, UO President, Celebrates Leadership Award

EUGENE, OR (Feb. 1, 2024) – The University of Oregon proudly announces that its president, Karl Scholz, has been honored to be the first-ever recipient of the Emerald Award for Leadership. On Feb. 22, 2024, the Eugene Chamber of Commerce will honor Scholz in a ceremony that will be held at the Graduate Hotel. This recognition affirms Scholz's dedication to breaking the financial barriers to higher education and commitment to addressing social issues in his community.

Scholz, the 19th president of the University of Oregon, is an internationally respected economist for his published work addressing important issues of household savings, higher education, low-wage labor markets, and bankruptcy laws. By demonstrating visionary leadership, Scholz's outstanding contributions to the field of education and highlighting financial constraints have set the standard for excellence to receive this accolade.

The Emerald Award, renowned for acknowledging local businesses that have enhanced Lane County's vitality and quality of life, added a new reward this year to commemorate an individual who demonstrates imperative leadership. This award highlights the dedication and innovation of Scholz, who contributed to the societal well-being of this community.

"I am extremely grateful to receive this award. I want to thank the Eugene Chamber of Commerce for this honor; but most importantly, the Eugene community and University of Oregon students. They are the people who I strived to help and are the reason I am here today. So, thank you!" said President Karl Scholz.

After years of working at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as the dean of the College of Letters & Science to the Institute Director of Research on Poverty, Scholz began his tenure at the University of Oregon in 2019 – bringing experience and devotion to improve the utility of this university and community.

"Karl's commitment to positively improve this community shines through as he actively tackles the economic challenges affecting students and the Lane County community. There is no better example of a dedicated leader and mentor for this award," said Brittany Quick-Warner, president of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce.

The nonprofit organization, Eugene Chamber of Commerce, is a union of local business owners who compose a board of directors that advocate for economic development in the city of Eugene. It prioritizes bringing the Eugene community together through various events and programs and focuses on the issues and policies that affect their local businesses.

Likewise, the University of Oregon strives for excellence in teaching, research and fostering the next generation of transformational leaders. This public university is committed to the

enhancement of education while fostering diversity, equality and inclusion for everyone to be welcomed and supported in this community.

For more information, please visit www.eugenchamber.com & www.uoregon.edu.