

3.9. The institution has an independent governing board or similar authority that, consistent with its legal and fiduciary authority, exercises appropriate oversight over institutional integrity, policies, and ongoing operations, including hiring and evaluating the chief executive officer.

Sonoma State University is one of 23 campuses of the [California State University System](#) (CSU); which is the largest university system in the country. The 25-member [Board of Trustees](#), which was established in 1960, oversees the operations of the CSU with responsibilities including, but not limited to, establishing rules and policies, developing curriculum, managing human and fiscal resources, and informing the citizens of California of the effectiveness and needs of the CSU. There currently are 10 standing committees of the Board.

The Governor of California appoints the majority of trustees; the trustees, in turn, appoint the [Chancellor](#) (CSU's Chief Executive Officer) and hire the university presidents. The Chancellor appoints the 11 members of the Chancellors Cabinet including four Chief Administrative Officers.

In addition to hiring the university presidents, the CSU Board of Trustees provides each president with the information needed to carry out his/her responsibilities as the campus chief executive officer, including an orientation to [policies, benefits, and salaries](#). The Board and the Chancellor also assess each CSU president's effectiveness by considering various criteria including educational leadership effectiveness, human and fiscal management, community relations, and personal characteristics. In 2005, Chancellor, Charles Reed, [reviewed](#) Dr. Ruben Arminana, President of SSU. In his assessment, Dr. Reed found Dr. Arminana to be "an enthusiastic and solid executive, a person of integrity and high aspirations." The next review of Dr. Arminana is set for 2007-08.