

Colorado College Board of Trustees

Business Meeting

November 6, 2020

12-3 p.m.

In attendance: Sue Allon, Onyx Bengston, Sam Bronfman, Susie Burghart, Bill Campbell, Heather Carroll, John Chalik, Dan Cooper, Carolyn Cullen, Jerome DeHerrera, Eric Duran, Mike Edmonds, Frieda Ekotto, Joe Ellis, Jane Franke, Lisa Hastings, Ryan Haygood, Jesse Horn, Jeff Keller, Amy Louis, Tafari Lumumba, Liza Malott Pohle, Kishen Mangat, Robert Moore, Eben Moulton, Doug Norberg, So Yong Park, Jane Rawlings, Bob Ross, Kyle Samuel, Bob Selig, Van Skilling, Andy Stenovec, Phil Swan, Brian Thomson, John Troubh, Thayer Tutt, Lauren Watel, Elliott Williams, Jack Wold, Alan Woo

Not in attendance: Neal Baer, Bill Hybl, Mike Lampton, Bob Manning, Manuel Martinez, Natalie Pham, Adam Press, Mike Slade, Winddance Twine, Cole Wilbur, Brian Williamson, Nancy Woodrow, Sue Woolsey

Staff in attendance: Andrea Bruder, Pedro de Araujo, Rochelle Dickey, Claire Garcia, Lori Hamacher, Mark Hatch, Lesley Irvine, Jane Turnis, John Wallace, Lyrae Williams, Brian Young

Guests: Anne Koellhoffer, Shelly Storbeck

Introductory Remarks

Chair Susie Burghart welcomed trustees to the meeting, which took place virtually. She thanked Acting Co-Presidents Mike Edmonds and Robert Moore, Acting Provost and Dean of the Faculty Claire Garcia, and cabinet for their leadership during a challenging academic year.

In anticipation of future meetings again being held virtually, she then asked trustees to contact Lori Hamacher in advance if there are future committee and SPT meetings they would like to attend. These virtual meetings require additional scheduling, planning, and structure.

Ms. Burghart also asked trustees to complete the KRCC questionnaire they had received an email about on Tuesday, November 3. Completion of the questionnaire is required for KRCC's FCC renewal.

She welcomed Heather Carroll as the board-appointed trustee for the Fine Arts Center Advisory Board. She also welcomed Jack Wold as a life trustee.

She moved to vote on the approval of minutes from the June 12, 2020, and October 2, 2020, business meetings. ***Approval of the minutes was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.***

Presidents' Report

Ms. Burghart then introduced Mr. Edmonds and Mr. Moore to give the Presidents' Report.

Mr. Edmonds thanked the board for their participation in the twice monthly KPAWNS sessions, which have included presentations from Acting Provost and Dean of the Faculty Claire Garcia and Vice President for Enrollment Mark Hatch.

Mr. Edmonds stated that conversations with Campus Safety and the Colorado Springs Police Department about campus safety are ongoing and proceeding constructively. Mr. Edmonds also reported that he recently met with the CSPD police chief, who is committed to having a productive and healthy relationship with the college and the campus.

CC Votes, a student group did much to prepare for the November 3, 2020, election, underscoring the importance of civic engagement.

Colorado College's antiracism work continues and is receiving recognition. Carleton College contacted CC about the work we are doing. Colorado College also has been invited to join the University of Southern California Race and Equity Center's newly established Liberal Arts Colleges Racial Equity Leadership Alliance.

As the college nears the end of the semester, preparation is underway for a safe return for Block J and Block 5.

The college has recently received several gifts, including a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to support State of the Rockies. The college also has received a grant from Inasmuch Foundation to name the forthcoming student services building for Barbara Yalich '54 and Milo "Mike" Yalich '50. The building will be attached to Ed Robson Arena. In addition, the college received a grant from the Sachs Foundation to Black students who are pursuing careers in education.

Mr. Moore reported that many staff are taking on additional roles as the college responds to the Coronavirus pandemic, noting that this model is not sustainable.

The college has experienced a \$13 million budget shortfall and is planning for a \$9 million shortfall in the Spring 2021 semester. The college plans to go to the bond market to borrow additional funds.

Ms. Burghart referred to the report in the Board Book about the bond resolution.

COVID-19 Update

Vice President for Information Technology/Chief Technology Officer Brian Young gave an update on the college's ongoing response to COVID-19. He noted that the situation in Colorado was not going well, with the state experiencing its highest positive test rates and highest numbers of hospitalizations since the pandemic began.

Colorado's governor has signed an executive order that deems K-12 and institutions of higher learning critical businesses, a move made in anticipation of a possible future move to stay at home orders.

El Paso County is currently in Safer at Home, Phase 2. If we move to Phase 3, there will be more restrictive Safer at Home orders, but Colorado College will still be permitted to operate. CC is currently the safest place in El Paso County. The county has a 12.3% weekly positivity rate and a 7.5% cumulative positivity rate. Colorado College has a .2% weekly positivity rate and a .4% cumulative positivity rate.

The Scientific Advisory Group, led by Associate Dean Andrea Bruder, has implemented mitigation strategies. Testing continues to be strong with 33% random sample tests per week. There are now random sampling tests done with faculty and staff as well. We are utilizing Abbott and PCR tests.

The student body has done a great job of adhering to safety protocols and they are strong advocates among each other. They have proven time and again they want to be here.

We are preparing the CC hockey team for pod living in Omaha, where they will begin their season. With protocol and procedures in place, the Fine Arts Center also will open Nov. 12 with restrictions.

Freida Ekotto commented that she was currently on campus and impressed by the students she saw outside, who all were wearing masks.

Committee Reports

Special Nominating Committee: Board Chair Susie Burghart described the role of the Special Nominating Committee, which has been assembled to select a new slate of officers because the terms of Chair Susie Burghart, Vice Chair Jeff Keller, and Secretary Jerome DeHerrera will expire June 30, 2021.

The Special Nominating Committee consists of Ms. Burghart, Carolyn Cullen, Mike Edmonds, Eben Moulton, and Kyle Samuel. Their charge is to present the slate of officers for a vote during the February 2021 board meeting.

Investment Committee: John Trouhb reported that at the end of fiscal year 2020, the college's endowment was up 3% compared to this time the previous year. Our investment returns were below our peers. He attributed this to a change in advisors, which occurred during FY20. During the first quarter of FY21, the college's endowment was up 7.1%. Mr. Trouhb noted that our new partners are a diverse group, but that our Investment Committee is lacking diverse

members. He reported that he believes our new partners will provide a good, disciplined policy going forward.

Budget and Finance Committee: Phil Swan report included an update about the state of the college's financial situation. There is a \$13 million shortfall, but \$9 million in savings due to budget reductions. A \$4.1 million delta of other things to consider are: debt restructuring, elimination of retirement contributions for another six months, residence halls. So far, COVID expenditures have amounted to \$3.1 million of the \$5 million we have budgeted. We are well off in relation to other colleges.

Onyx Bengston stated that staff should be acknowledged for the work they are doing to operate the college and serve students during this time.

Ms. Burghart responded, stating that she and Acting Co-Presidents Edmonds and Moore would send a message of appreciation and support for staff.

Acting Co-President Moore explained that the college had already set aside the \$5 million budget for the COVID response, so it did not add to our budget shortfall.

Buildings and Grounds: Brian Thomson reported that Associate Vice President of Facilities Services Amber Brannigan was recently hired. She comes to Colorado College with previous experience at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Construction of Ed Robson Arena experienced a second stop due to Coronavirus infections. The project has resumed, however, and it is moving along nicely.

The implications of building this arena have included the removal of the 3D arts studio. The Art Department worked with KVA architects on a conceptual design for 3D arts. For Phase 1, they recommend a building that would occupy most to the current parking lot next to Bemis Art School. For Phase 2, a remodel of Bemis Art School for 3D arts would expand the classroom space in Bemis. Bemis art school would then move to the Van Briggie building, which would require Facilities to move elsewhere. Phase 1 would cost \$5-6 million. Phase 2 would cost \$8 million and require fundraising.

Heather Carroll asked about the timeline for the move to Van Briggie. Mr. Thomson explained that fundraising would dictate the timeline and that 75% of the funds required would need to be raised before construction could begin.

Moving Bemis Art School to the Van Briggie building also would have a positive impact on traffic flow.

Sue Allon noted that the Van Briggie building is for pottery so there was good logic behind this plan.

Governance: Kyle Samuel reported that two Charter Trustees would be voted on during the February 2021 board meeting. He reported that the committee also has discussed engaging the faculty in dialogue about how to make sure they have a voice with the Board of Trustees.

Student Success: Heather Carroll reported about the new general education requirements that the faculty approved in Spring 2019, assessment, and evaluation of resources for course development. Acting Dean of Students Rochelle Dickey had provided the committee with an overview of student support on and off campus. Vice President, Director of Athletics Lesley Irvine shared that there are approximately 350 student-athletes on campus and 86% of athletes are enrolled as full time students. Dean of the Faculty Claire Garcia spoke to the committee about the college's ongoing diversity, equity, and inclusion — and antiracism — related work. Dean Garcia also recommended that the board read “The Merit Myth: How Our Colleges Favor the Rich and Divide America.”

Strategic Project Team Reports

Athletics SPT: Andy Stenovec reported that there has been a plan for the Athletics SPT to end after this year, but he has spoken the Lesley Irvine and Acting Co-Presidents Edmonds and Moore about an interim solution that can ensure that discussion and participation with the trustees concerning athletics continues. An area of focus and attention for the 2020-21 academic year has been supporting assistant coaches, and supporting facilities. He shared that Ms. Irvine updated the SPT on progress for the forthcoming tennis and hockey facilities.

Campaign Steering SPT: Board Vice Chair Jeff Keller reported that through the campaign, \$415 million has been raised toward the \$435 million goal, meaning that the college is 95% of the way toward reaching goal with 83% of time elapsed in the campaign, which concludes in December 2021. He concluded we're well positioned to finish the campaign, with \$20 million left to raise for the Scholarships and Student Experience campaign priority, and a significant anonymous gift that will push us over the finish line in early to mid-2021. Alumni participation in giving continues to be an area where we need to realize improvement. Mr. Keller shared that the incoming president would be looking to fill the vacant vice president for advancement position and raise funds for a new science building. He thanked Acting Vice President for Advancement Brian Young and Associate Vice President for Advancement Molly Bodnar for the work they are doing.

Financial Model SPT: Jesse Horn's report raised the question, “How do we address the barbell effect?” The SPT will make recommendations to the new, incoming president about what they believe a proper path forward should look like.

Size and Makeup of the Student Body SPT: Tafari Lumumba reported that the SPT was looking at compositional diversity, including racial diversity and socioeconomic diversity as they envision their work and set goals. They are considering hiring a consultant who can help us develop principles of becoming an antiracist institution. He explained that growth of the student body, for example, could be one way to achieve greater compositional diversity sooner

rather than later. In addition, the SPT is considering the impacts of recruiting additional faculty of color, providing additional Career Center resources, and making a deeper ongoing investment in the Antiracism Initiative.

Fine Arts Center Advisory Board

Due to technical difficulties on the call, Ms. Allon was not able to deliver the report, but did provide this written summary:

November 6, 2020

Report to the Colorado College Board of Trustees on the Fine Arts Center

This will be my last report to the Board as the Colorado College-designated representative on the Fine Arts Center Advisory Board. The FAC's bylaws prohibit the CC-appointed trustee from chairing the Advisory Board. I am grateful to Heather Carroll for assuming the role of Board-designee, a move that enables me to accept the role of Chair of the Fine Arts Center Advisory Board as an at-large member.

The Fine Arts Center's museum will open on November 12 under COVID-related restrictions. The museum's reopening has been a major endeavor at a time when the College has been occupied with the pressing concerns of its own ability to remain open and fully operational during the pandemic. We are very grateful to CC's leadership, including our co-Presidents and Brian Young, all of whom worked closely with FAC Director Idris Goodwin and his staff to earn El Paso County's approval to reopen.

*Although the FAC has been closed and, once open, will remain limited in its in-person offerings, several new online offerings have both kept the spirit of the Center alive and created revenues. I encourage you to visit the FAC's website at <https://fac.coloradocollege.edu/>, and consider subscribing to the wonderful audio-theater series, *Of Spacious Skies*. This 12-episode series explores Colorado Springs' history. *Broadway on Demand*, with a multitude of Broadway shows, is also offered through the FAC website. The much-anticipated Cheech Marin exhibit of Chicano art will be offered online in December, and a virtual meet-and-greet with Mr. Marin is in the works.*

Under the leadership of Performing Arts Director Scott Levy, the FAC received a remarkable 21 nominations for Henry awards this year, and won 15 of them. The Henrys recognize outstanding achievement in Colorado theater. This is the most awards ever won in a year by any institution. In addition, the Colorado Independent recently gave the FAC its prestigious Gold Award for Arts Gallery, another noteworthy achievement.

Idris Goodwin reported that the FAC staff submitted its documentation for American Alliance of Museums re-accreditation on November 1. A site visit will most likely be scheduled for March.

As is the case throughout the College, the FAC is doing its best during these difficult times, operating with limited staff and under the pressure of severely-reduced revenues. The FAC leadership recognizes and appreciates the positive, energetic support that the College has given it.

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With no additional business to discuss, Ms. Burghart adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan S. Burghart
Chair