

# **Colorado College Board of Trustees**

November 3, 2018
Business Meeting
Yalich Boardroom, Spencer Center

# **Summary of Proceedings**

In Attendance: Sue Allon, Sam Bronfman, Susie Burghart, Carolyn Cullen, Jerome DeHerrera, Joe Ellis, Jesse Horn, Jeff Keller, Amy Louis, Eyner Lopez, Tafari Lumumba, Kishen Mangat, Eric Mellum, Eben Moulton, Natalie Pham, Liza Malott Pohle, Tony Rosendo, Bob Ross, Jarod Rutledge, Bob Selig, Michael Slade, Andy Stenovec, Marc St. John, Phil Swan, Brian Thomson, Jill Tiefenthaler, John Troubh, Cole Wilbur, Jack Wold.

**Not in attendance:** Neal Baer, Ryan Haygood, Manuel Martinez, Adam Press, Mike Slade\*, R. Thayer Tutt.

**Staff in attendance:** Greg Capell, Mike Edmonds, Mark Hatch, Mark Hille, Robert Moore, Alan Townsend, Jane Turnis, Kim Waldron, Lyrae Williams, Sandi Wong, Brian Young.

\*Attended board committee and SPT meetings, but not the business meeting

### **Introductory Remarks**

Susie Burghart thanked trustees for participating in meetings over the past few days, and in particular, for their discussions of CC's financial model and the distinctiveness of the academic program.

Approval of the board meeting minutes of June 15, 2018 was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

# **President's Report**

President Tiefenthaler drew the board's attention to the results of the 5-year out alumni survey on post-graduate pursuits for the classes of 2012 and 2013, noting that more data on the survey is on the CC Facts website.

President Tiefenthaler reported that recruitment for a new Athletics Director is underway, and that review of applications will begin before the end of the fall semester. She thanked trustees Joe Ellis, Tony Rosendo and Mike Slade for serving on the search committee.

She also reported that the ongoing Mid-Term Election Symposiums on campus have been very successful and well attended. Governor John Kasich will visit campus on November 12 and will participate in a town-hall style event. President Tiefenthaler thanked Eben Moulton and alumnus Wilber James for helping to arrange Governor Kasich's visit.

President Tiefenthaler said she will attend the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poland in December. Professor Mark Smith and students from his course will also participate along with trustees Marc St. John and Kishen Mangat.

Finally, she noted that it has been a very busy fall at CC and thanked trustees who campus for Family and Friends Weekend and Homecoming: Susie Burghart, Jeff Keller, Carolyn Cullen, Ryan Haygood, Tafari Lumumba, Eben Moulton, Tony Rosendo, Dan Cooper, Bob Manning, Van Skilling, and Nancy Woodrow

### **Provost's Report**

Provost Townsend outlined his early impressions of Colorado College. He said that students are smart, thoughtful, nuanced and driven, and are informed and connected consumers. He observed that if the college were willing, CC's structure would allow innovation to meet the needs of students who increasingly want flexibility and agency, novel combinations of study, engagement and opportunities to connect to what is next and a broader definition of academic credit.

Provost Townsend shared his thoughts on climate change and its relevance to CC. He said that global warming is not theoretical, and keeping the temperature increase to 2°C will cost trillions of dollars, but is doable in ways that will not decimate the economy. Higher education, he said, should prepare students to be part of this effort. He noted that CC is already a leader and is taking seriously its commitment to become carbon-neutral. In strategic planning, CC should continue to consider the impact of climate change, since it will affect students, infrastructure and revenue.

### **Dean's Report**

Dean Wong provided an update on the faculty's efforts to update the general education (GNED) requirement. Dean Wong outlined areas of agreement on themes for the GNED revision, which include the importance of understanding different approaches, or modes of inquiry. The Curriculum Executive Committee (CEC) is holding a series of discussions at faculty meetings, as well as holding forums and retreats and collecting student feedback. Dean Wong said that there are several proposals being debated and the CEC plans to bring a single acceptable proposal forward by the end of the academic year.

### **Faculty Executive Committee and CCSGA Reports**

Neither the FEC chair nor the CCSGA president were able to attend the board meeting in person, so trustees were referred to their written reports.

### **Campaign Update**

Mark Hille outlined the priorities for the advancement division. These include re-energizing the Campaign Steering Committee, increasing the focus on scholarships and innovation, broadening alumni engagement, and meeting financial targets. He said that that search for a new director of the alumni office will begin soon and he thanked Jesse Horn and Eric Mellum for their involvement in the process. Mark also noted plans for a new position to focus on volunteer engagement across various divisions and offices including advancement, admissions and the career center. Finally, he reported that the current campaign total is \$343 million and expressed confidence that fundraising is on track to meet the campaign goal.

## **Committee Reports**

#### **Executive Committee:**

Chair Susie Burghart reported that the committee recommends the board approve the awarding of honorary degrees at Commencement 2019 to four candidates recommended by the Academic Events Committee, the Dean of the Faculty and the President. *Approval of the candidates was moved and passed unanimously.* 

She said the committee also recommends the board approve changes to the Gender-based Discrimination, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy and Procedures, and Anti-discrimination Policy and Procedures. These changes are relatively minor, but enhance the way the college handles cases covered by the policies. *Approval of the changes was moved, and passed unanimously.* 

President Tiefenthaler reported that she discussed with the committee a proposal from the Indigenous and Native Peoples of Colorado College to name an outdoor space "Tava Circle." She will meet with the group and bring a proposal to the board at the February board meeting.

### **Budget and Finance Committee and Audit Subcommittee:**

Chair Jack Wold reported that the Audit Subcommittee reviewed the FY2018 auditors report. The report is very complimentary of CC and the cooperation and transparency of the

administration. There were no findings of non-compliance with Federal or State of Colorado programs.

Mr. Wold said that the Budget and Finance Committee approved the college's reserves, and reviewed the FY2018 financial statements. President Tiefenthaler gave a presentation to the committee on the financial pressures facing many small liberal arts colleges. He noted that the committee will meet in Denver in January to have a preliminary discussion of 2019-20 comprehensive fee and budget recommendations. The committee also recommended that the board approve minor changes to the retirement plan charter. *Changes to the retirement plan charter were moved, and passed unanimously.* 

# **Buildings, Grounds and Infrastructure Committee:**

Chair Brian Thomson reported that the committee held its annual meeting on campus, and took a walking tour of campus to learn about planned and recently completed projects. The committee learned that progress is being made towards achieving the college's goal of carbon neutrality. Mr. Thomson noted that the committee spent considerable time discussing Robson Arena and recommends, unanimously, two actions for board approval: the hiring of JLG Architects, and the siting of the arena on the south side of the block bordered by Cache le Poudre, Tejon, Dale and Nevada Streets.

The proposal to hire JLG Architects for the Robson Arena project was moved and approved unanimously.

The proposal to site the arena on the south side of the block bordered by Cache le Poudre, Tejon, Dale and Nevada Streets was moved and approved unanimously.

Mr. Thomson also reported that the committee met with parking consultants and recommend that the college provide more specific information on possible parking options at the February board meeting. Robert Moore then outlined the estimated costs and sources of funding for the Robson Arena project and reminded the board that they approved going forward with the project contingent upon receiving City for Champions (C4C) funding of \$9.2 million. He noted that the state will not release C4C funding until substantial progress has been made on the project, and the state's definition of "substantial progress" requires pouring foundations for the arena. He therefore recommends that the board authorize construction of the arena not contingent on receipt of C4C funding. Secondly, Mr. Moore noted that the board approved a list of projects for which bond funding can be used, but the list does not include the hockey arena. He asked that the board authorize use of bond funding for the Robson Arena project. The board then thoroughly discussed the cost and financing options for Robson Arena.

Authorization to build Robson Arena was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

Authorization to add Robson Arena to the list of projects eligible for bond funding was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

Mr. Thomson reported that President Tiefenthaler will appoint a committee of faculty, staff, students, and trustees to work with the architects on the design of Robson Arena.

Finally, Mr. Thomson said that the committee has asked to review a land acquisition strategy at their next meeting in February.

### **Governance Committee:**

Chair Jerome DeHerrera said that the committee reviewed trustee terms and options for trustee self-assessment and will bring recommendations for term renewals, new charter trustees and self-assessment to the board in February. He reported that the committee also discussed creating a new standing committee to monitor student success and outcomes, and will bring a proposal to the board at the February meeting. Finally, Mr. DeHerrera announced that trustee Lynne Cheney has resigned from the board and that the Governance Committee recommended that she be named an Honorary Trustee to recognize her contributions to Colorado College and the board.

A motion to name Lynne V. Cheney an Honorary Trustee of Colorado College was made and approved unanimously.

### **Investment Committee:**

Eben Moulton reported on the committee's activities in the absence of committee chair Adam Press. He said that the committee met in New York in September and visited six investment firms. In its meeting on November 1, the committee focused on investment allocation and agreed to move three investments and increase the range of international investments. Mr. Moulton said that the committee also met with students from the Fossil Free CC group, who proposed creating a sidecar investment fund to market to donors who wish to support CC through fossil free investing. Mr. Moulton said that while the committee may continue to discuss the idea of a sidecar fund, they recommend that the full board consider how best to address broader environmental issues. President Tiefenthaler proposed creating a task force of students, faculty, staff and trustees to consider how CC can best contribute to addressing climate change, beyond its commitment to become carbon neutral.

### **Strategic Project Team and Other Reports**

#### **Athletics SPT:**

SPT chair Andy Stenovec reported that the SPT held a conference call in October and met on campus on November 2. The SPT is focusing on two topics this year: a "refresh" of the athletics logo, and an analysis of the facilities and other aspects of the women's soccer program. He noted that Jane Turnis presented information to the group about the logo project and how the SPT will be involved. The committee toured the fields and locker room used by the women's soccer team. Greg Capell will summarize the options for field improvement for the SPT's next meeting in February.

### **Campaign Planning SPT:**

SPT chair Jeff Keller said that the SPT discussed re-engaging the Campaign Steering Committee, which will include alumni and parents as well as trustees. He noted that the committee will meet on campus to kick off its work during the February board meeting. Mr. Keller reiterated the need to focus more intently on fundraising for scholarships (\$100 million goal) and innovation (\$40 million goal). He thanked trustees for their involvement and philanthropy and urged them to be active volunteers in the campaign.

#### **Financial Model SPT:**

SPT chair Phil Swan reported that the first meeting of the group focused on the importance of attracting middle-income students to the college, and ideas for doing so.

#### **Distinctiveness SPT:**

SPT chair Amy Louis thanked SPT members for their engagement in the discussions. She recommended that all trustees read the *Chronicle of Higher Education* report "The New Generation of Students." She reported that the SPT plans to be data-driven, and will review data on student trends and the marketplace at its next meeting in February.

#### **Innovation**:

Kishen Mangat reported on the innovation retreat held in October 2018 in California, attended by CC trustees, alumni, staff and parents. The key takeaways, he said, were that CC is uniquely positioned to be a leader in innovation in higher education, that student wellbeing is important to address through innovation, and that CC needs to think about how to bring innovation concepts into the academic core of the college. He also described fundraising efforts for innovation and the focus on facilities, program, curriculum and staffing.

# **Fine Arts Center Advisory Board:**

Sue Allon, the trustee representative on the FAC Advisory Board, reported that the board is deeply grateful for CC's partnership and delighted with interactions between the FAC and CC students and faculty. Staffing and facilities have been stabilized and the programming at the FAC is impactful.

### Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

# **Executive Session**

The board convened an executive session at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned approximately 15 minutes later.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc St. John

Secretary