

# **Board of Trustees BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, June 11, 2021

#### **Summary of Proceedings**

In Attendance: Susie Burghart (Chair), Onyx Bengston<sup>+</sup>, Ed Bowditch<sup>+</sup>, Bill Campbell<sup>\*</sup>, Heather Carroll, Carolyn Cullen, Jerome DeHerrera, Eric Duran, Mike Edmonds, Frieda Ekotto, Joe Ellis, Jane Franke, Lisa Hastings, Ryan Haygood, Jesse Horn, Gaby Jadotte<sup>+</sup>, Jeff Keller, Amy Louis, Tafari Lumumba (zoom), Kishen Mangat, Robert Moore, Eben Moulton, So Yong Park<sup>+</sup>, Liza Malott Pohle (zoom), L. Song Richardson<sup>+</sup>, Kyle Samuel, Bob Selig<sup>\*</sup>, Van Skilling<sup>\*</sup>, Andy Stenovec, Phil Swan, Brian Thomson, John Troubh, R. Thayer Tutt, Jr., Lauren Watel, Justin "Chester" White<sup>+</sup>, Elliott Williams, Alan Woo

**Unable to attend:** Sue Allon, Sam Bronfman, Manuel Martinez, Natalie Pham, Bob Ross, Mike Slade, and France Winddance Twine

\*Life Trustee, non-voting

\*New trustees (as of July 1, 2021), non-voting

**Staff in attendance:** Andrea Bruder, Pedro de Araujo, Rochelle Dickey, Krystal Duran, Claire Oberon Garcia, Mark Hatch, Lesley Irvine, Jane Turnis, Lyrae Williams, and Brian Young

#### **Introductory Remarks**

Chair Susie Burghart thanked trustees for participating in the in-person board retreat and to those who connected virtually. With the pandemic still impacting all aspects of our lives, she said that coming together, reinforces the strength of the college community, especially at a time of leadership transition. Susie welcomed incoming president, L. Song Richardson and shared the excitement she feels for the college and for Song. Susie then took the time to reflect on her years of chairman. She then asked the board to approve the meeting minutes of February 19, 202. With a

few minor corrections from Heather Carroll in the Student Success Committee report, approval of the minutes was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Chair Burghart and Co-Presidents Edmonds and Moore then thanked trustees leaving the board at the end of June: Eben Moulton, Jesse Horn, and Elliot Williams.

The board elected four new trustees to the board: Justin "Chester" White (charter trustee), Ed Bowditch (alumni trustee), Gaby Jadotte (student trustee, for a one-year term), and Tony Rosendo (charter trustee, who will begin in July 2022). *Election of these candidates was moved, seconded and passed unanimously*.

#### Co-Presidents' Report

Co-President Mike Edmonds deferred his comments to Co-President Robert Moore. Robert used the time to update the trustees on the state of the college's finances. He reviewed the impact the pandemic had on both college revenues and expenses. He also reviewed the state of the funding for the arena and other capital projects the college has been considering (3D Arts, Van Briggle, Bemis School of Art, and Facilities Services). He also reviewed the state of the college's debt now and in 2025.

# Acting Provost/Dean of the Faculty's Report

Dean of the Faculty Claire Oberon Garcia advanced three items for board approval:

- 1. Promotion to full professorship for Kristina Acri (Economics and Business), Emily Chan (Psychology), Regula Evitt (English), Steven Hayward (English), and Miro Kummel (Environmental Science)
- 2. Promotion to senior lecturer for Jean Gumpper (Art and Art Studio)
- 3. Hire with tenure at the full professor rank for Luis Garcia Puente (Mathematics and Computer Science)
- 4. Amendments to the faculty handbook revision of Honor Code to accommodate remote and hybrid teaching, creation of a new General Education Review and Assessment Committee, description of new positions for faculty representatives to the Board of Trustees, clarification of process for promotion to senior lecturer, and enabling Personnel Policies subcommittee members to assist with faculty reviews when needed.

The four items were moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

## **Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee**: Nothing to report

**Governance Committee:** Kyle Samuel, chair of the committee reminded the group to complete their 2021 trustee self-assessment. Kyle also reported regrettably that Natalie Pham has resigned from the board.

Investment Committee: John Troubh, chair of the committee, reported that the committee met in-person with the college's endowment advisors-Partners Group. Highlight was that as of April 2021, the endowment's market value was approximately \$900 million. John reported that the committee would be reviewing the investment policy and the possibility of incorporating ESG and DEI language. John noted that the committee would report on that review in November.

Financial Model SPT: Jesse Horn, chair of the SPT, reported that there is no easy answer to the college's financial model, and that the board and college must continue to discuss various options for models. Jesse reminded the board of the conversation from the previous day on the perceived barbell effect (high need and full pay students). Colorado College is one of only 66 colleges that continue to meet full need. As competition for students grows, the pressure of the college to be reliant on full pay students will increase. The Colorado Pledge has begun to bring more middle-class students to CC, but much work needs to continue, including possibly revisiting the financial aid model.

Fine Arts Advisory Board: Jeff Keller gave the report on behalf of Sue Allon who could not be at the Business Meeting. Jeff reported that the FAC remained closed to the public for most of the year. During the year, staff developed and launched many online alternatives, including radio theatre productions, online art viewing and online art school programs. The FAC is planning a reopening of all venues for the fall. Jeff reported that supervision of the FAC is being transitioned to the President's Office under Mike Edmonds.

Other Business: Jerome DeHerrera, chair of governance brought a resolution forward to grant the incoming president, effective July 1, 2021 signing authority for the college. The resolution read –

Resolved that effective July 1, 2021, any one of the following officers of the Colorado College to wit the President L. Song Richardson, or the senior vice president for finance and administration/treasurer, Robert G. Moore. Together with the chair of the board, Jeff Keller, or the chair of the investment committee, John Troubh are hereby authorized to sign such legal documents on behalf of the college.

As may be necessary or desirable to effectuate the colleges receipt of gifts, bequests and devices to the college, including but not limited to receipts, waivers, consents, and such other pleadings as may be called for during probate administration. Resolved further that this resolution shall stand in full force in effect until changed by further resolution of the board of trustees.

I, Jerome DeHerrera, secretary of the board of trustees of the Colorado College hereby certify that above is a true and exact copy of resolution passed at the meeting of the board of trustees, effective June 11, 2021.

Approval of the resolution was moved, seconded and passed with one abstention.

Before adjourning, incoming board chair, Jeff Keller, ask the board and staff to join him in thanking board chair, Susie Burghart for service and leadership to board and college.

## **Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Respectfully submitted,

Susan S. Burghart

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