

Board of Managers 2015 – 2016

Co-Presidents – Ann Burek and Meg Chojnacki
 First Vice President – Nancy Baxter
 Second Vice President – Monique Michaud
 Recording Secretary – Emily Dean Kim
 Corresponding Secretary – Beth Zautke
 Treasurer – Barbara Mitchell
 Assistant Treasurer – Barbara May
 Immediate Past Co-Presidents – Lana Coffman and Beth Zautke
 Board Members:
 Caitlin Apigian Elaine Derbenwick Helen Knight
 Crystal Bryant Sharon Grady Eileen Martin
 Diane Benninghoff Sue Graham Sheila McElroy
 Judy Casey Sarah Healy Faye McQueen
 Lana Coffman Karen Henderson Kerry Steere
 Judy DeGroot Rosalyn Knepell

The Woman’s Educational Society Scholars 2015 – 2016

Seniors, Class of 2016

Amairani Alamillo	Fountain, Colorado
Tessa Allen de Oliveira	Colorado Springs, Colorado
Chloe Edeal	Corrales, New Mexico
Kayla Fratt	Ashland, Wisconsin
Devon Lucero	Pueblo, Colorado

Juniors, Class of 2017

Stephanie Bui	New Orleans, Louisiana
Anastassia Doktorova	Pueblo, Colorado
Madeleine Garcia	Denver, Colorado
Grace Guryan	Hailey, Idaho
Natasha Riveron	Toledo, Ohio

Sophomores, Class of 2018

Olivia Berlin	Bellevue, Washington
Isabelle Nathanson	Boulder, Colorado
Caley Nicholson	Brunswick, Maine
Emma Wilson	Steamboat Springs, Colorado
Kendra Wuerth	Colorado Springs, Colorado

Freshmen, Class of 2019

Jessianne Blake	Burien, Washington
Karla Figueroa	Round Lake Beach, IL
Valerie Maravilla	Glendale, AZ
Emily Sussman	Gilbert, AZ
Katie Timzen	Gresham, OR

Anniversary Scholar, Class of 2016

Anna Skrabacz	Denver, Colorado
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**THE WOMAN'S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (WES)
 OF COLORADO COLLEGE
 2015-2016**

Annual Report of the Presidents

**127th Annual Meeting
 April 21, 2016**

To all members and friends:

This report summarizes the activities of the committees and officers of the WES Board of Managers.

STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Membership statistics as of December 31, 2015

Regular members.....	124
Life and Silver Special members.....	96
Ex-officio and Honorary members	9
Total.....	229

Board of Managers accounts as of December 31, 2015

Administrative Fund.....	\$3,404
Scholarships – Fundraising.....	\$37,236
Dorothy P. Bryson Special Student Assistance Fund.....	\$4,200
Mary G. Slocum Founders Grant Fund	\$5,446
Gifts to Colorado College	\$4,600

Market Value of the Endowment as of December 31, 2015

Composed of the WES Irrevocable Trust and the WES Revocable Trust with funds from Cook, Hinch, Campbell, General Fund, and The Anniversary Fund	\$3,946,495
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2015-2016 Scholarship funds allocated to 21 scholars.....	\$147,000
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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

- August 15, 2015** **New Scholar Reception, Cornerstone**
- August 2015** **Fall *Newsfocus* mailing**
- September 12, 2015** **Van Briggie Pottery Festival**
- September 22, 2015** **Scholar Tea at Stewart House**
- October 29, 2015** **Fall Lunch & Program – Jessy Randall
Curator for Colorado College Special Collections**
- December 4-6, 2015** **Colorado College Craft Fair Fundraiser**
- December 8, 2015** **Scholar Event: Cookie Exchange**
- February 2016** **Winter *Newsfocus* mailing**
- February 18, 2016** **Winter Lunch & Program – Professor Daniel
Arroyo-Rodriguez – Semana Santa, Sevilla, Spain**
- April 21 2016** **WES Annual Meeting and Luncheon**
- April 27-May 5
2016** **WES/PILLAR Tour: Colorado's Footsteps
Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico**

Please read the committee reports for more details.

Scholarship Committee

Co-Chairs: Elaine Derbenwick, Helen Knight

Members: Caitlin Apigian, Sharon Grady, Sue Graham, Roz Knepell, Meg Chojnacki

- Selected and notified five new scholars, recruited and assigned mentors. Facilitated selection of the Marianne Stoller Honorary Scholar from among freshmen.
- Provided photos and stories on scholars for both issues of the *Newsfocus*.
- In August, at CC New Student Orientation, we held a welcome get together for new scholars and their families at Cornerstone Arts Center.
- In September, the Scholars Tea was held at Stewart House where the new scholars and their mentors were introduced. The Stoller Honorary Scholar was announced and all freshmen scholars were presented framed certificates.
- Distributed goodie bags to scholars at the start of each semester.
- In October, the co-chairs as well as many scholars attended the 15th Annual Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.
- Provided information, accepted scholars' applications and selected special purpose grant recipients for spring, summer and fall activities.
- Organized December Cookie Festival for scholars, mentors and WES Board at Bemis Great Hall.
- Held two "brown bag lunches" for scholars at Worner Center, featuring speakers Namrita Singh and Laura Hagler, both former WES scholars.
- Invited scholars to the April annual meeting and luncheon. Graduating seniors presented brief statements of thanks and discussed their future plans.

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Ann Burek and Meg Chojnacki

Thank you to the creative and efficient board members who have ensured a productive year. Our Van Briggie Pottery Tour has been upgraded to the Van Briggie Pottery Festival. In September 2015 the Festival was incredibly successful and is slated for September 10, 2016. Our fourth travel collaboration with Pillar Institute titled Coronado's Footsteps is scheduled April 25-May 1, 2016. Since we lost our beloved member and mentor Marianne Stoller, this will be the last trip planned under her auspices. We will continue the Honorary Stoller Scholar.

We retain a strong membership base and a strong endowment. The Finance Committee members continue to evaluate the operating budget and monitor the endowment. The first Board Retreat was held in January at the Penrose House where CC staff members talked about the endowment and financial aid policies. Board members discussed our mission.

We were proud to donate \$10,000 to Colorado College's Tutt Library Special Collections.

Our focus is on our 21 scholars with ever increasing aid for tuition and books as the cost increases. We have great scholar activities and a thriving mentorship program. At the CC Scholar Luncheon in the fall, one of our seniors, Amairani Alamillo was the keynote speaker. We were as proud of her as you will be when you hear our graduating seniors speak at the annual meeting.

We have had wonderful publicity this year including but not limited to the WES *NewsFocus* and the Colorado College Bulletin. The WES website is constantly updated and messages left on voicemail and at our email address are monitored. And, of course, "Like us on Facebook."

With the help of the board members, the committees and our loyal WES members, we made it through our first year as co-presidents. Three of our most effective and hard-working board members, Diane Benninghoff, Lana Coffman and Beth Zautke will complete their terms at the end of this year. We thank them and will miss them!

Contact us at:

WES@coloradocollege.edu
(719) 389-7699
www.coloradocollege.edu/other/wes
Like us on Facebook

Finance Committee

Chair: Barbara Mitchell

Members: Nancy Baxter, Elaine Derbenwick, Rosalyn Knepell, Barbara May, Beth Zautke, Ann Burek

The Finance Committee evaluates the operating budget, monitors the endowment and determines funding available for scholarships. The Board of Managers' goal is to provide scholars no less than 10% of the total cost of attending Colorado College. Each scholarship will increase from \$7,000 to \$7,300. This amount is 11.7% of Colorado College's cost of attendance. The total annual scholarship commitment for 21 students will be \$153,300.

Since the 1990s, John W. Bristol and Company has managed the WES endowment. As of December 31, 2015, it was valued at \$3,946,495.

In October, the Treasurer's Report was re-designed to better account for income and expenses. In December, the WES checking account and the Trip checking account were combined.

In January, the Memorandum of Understanding and accounting format relating to the WES/PILLAR trips were clarified for future trips, signed by both organizations and will be maintained for future reference.

We will again support five incoming freshmen and fifteen returning scholars for academic year 2016-2017. This would be impossible without our Fundraising Committee and the loyal support of members and friends. We congratulate the entire WES community on its efforts to maintain the value of WES scholarships. All memberships are greatly appreciated.

Publicity Committee

Chair: Sarah Healy

Members: Caitlin Apigian, Shelia McElroy, Kerry Steere, Ann Burek
Current *Newsfocus* Editor: Emily Dean Kim

WES was recognized in the August 2015 issue of the *Colorado College Bulletin*. "WES – The Organization that Keeps Giving," was authored by Rhonda Van Pelt, with assistance from Jessy Randall in Tutt Library Special Collections. The article featured interviews with the 2015 WES scholar graduates, former WES scholars and CC graduates at the WES annual meeting.

The first issue of the *Newsfocus* under the editorship of Emily Dean Kim and layout artist John Conner at TMR Direct was published in September 2015. This first issue – produced in a more streamlined workflow – was very well received. The Winter 2016 *Newsfocus* was mailed in February. The 12-page information-filled edition also received kind reviews.

On September 12, 2015, the annual WES Van Briggles Festival again broke attendance records thanks to publicity coverage from most local media outlets.

"CC Special Collections to Grow with \$10,000 WES Gift" was announced on December 2, 2015 on the Colorado College e-newsletter in blog form, "Around the Block."

The February 4th issue of the *Gazette* mistakenly published a photo of Ellen T. Brinley (1856-1931) on page B2 "A Look Back," crediting Mrs. Brinley with being president of WES. Bill Thomas, curator of Special Collections at the Pikes Peak Library District, and Josh Swearngin at the *Gazette* were kind enough to correct the error by publishing an erratum and a proper photograph of Mary Slocum, true president and founder of WES, on page B2 of the February 13th edition of the *Gazette*. The photo also included a very extensive caption that accurately credited WES with building Montgomery Hall, a campus infirmary, and establishing the Special Collections study room in Tutt Library.

The Communications Office of Colorado College continues to update the WES website with the content provided by the Publicity Committee. The WES website has become a reliable resource that provides current news and events and lets site visitors know how WES contributes not only to our scholars, but also to many Colorado College community-enhancing projects.

Program Committee

Chair: Monique Michaud

Board Members: Nancy Baxter, Lana Coffman, Sue Graham, Meg Chojnacki

Scholars Tea – September 22, 2015

The Scholars Tea was held at the elegant Stewart House. Meg Chojnacki gave a very lovely summary of the history of WES. Ann Burek introduced our special guest, Jim Swanson from the CC Financial Aid Office, who welcomed the scholars. Twelve scholars attended and were introduced by their mentors. Elaine Derbenwick and Helen Knight presented framed WES certificates to the freshmen scholars and the scholars spoke about their majors and future plans. The Stoller Honorary Scholar was awarded to Valerie Maravilla. What an impressive group of young ladies! Bon Appetit did a great job of catering the event, which was attended by about 45 people.

Fall Luncheon and Program – October 29, 2015

The Fall Luncheon and Program was held in Gaylord Hall in the Worner Center. The guest speaker was Jessy Randall, Curator for Special Collections at the Colorado College Tutt Library. She spoke about books past and present, from clay tablets to e-readers. She also brought a number of items from the collection and allowed the audience to actually handle them, a unique experience! The program was well attended and Bon Appetit did an outstanding job catering, as usual. They presented a birthday cupcake as we wished Lucy McLeod a happy birthday.

Winter Luncheon and Program – February 18, 2016

The Winter Luncheon and Program was held in Gaylord Hall in the Worner Center. The meal was a Spanish theme and the guest speaker was Professor Daniel Arroyo-Rodriguez of the CC Spanish Department. He spoke about Semana Santa and the famous festivals for which his hometown of Seville, Spain is known. He spoke of the Penitentes, the parades, and all the religious symbolism and pageantry surrounding Holy Week. The program was well received and very well attended.

WES Annual Meeting – April 21, 2016

The Annual Meeting was held in Slocum Commons. Senior scholars were asked to talk about their Colorado College experience and their future plans. The meeting will start at 11:30am. Lunch will be served at Noon, followed by addresses by the scholars.

Fundraising Committee

Chair: Lana Coffman

Board Members: Sarah Healy, Barbara May, Karen Henderson, Faye McQueen, Ann Burek

Members-at-Large: Sharon Rice, Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell

Van Briggie Festival – Chair, Sarah Healy

The annual WES Van Briggie Pottery tour became a Festival in 2015. The Horticulture Art Society, the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, and The Historic Preservation Alliance of Colorado Springs all joined WES at the Pottery on September 12 in effort to fulfill our mission statement: “The purpose of WES shall be to bring women of the community and The Colorado College together, to give assistance to the students of the Colorado College, and from time to time undertake programs and projects of WES’s choosing that will benefit the Colorado College, particularly the women of the college.” The “Festival” was quite successful (416 attendees), and we intend to follow the same Festival format again at this year’s event on September 10, 2016.

WES Gifts to Colorado College – Chair, Sarah Healy

On October 1, 2015, WES was proud to build on its long-standing relationship with Tutt Library Special Collections (SC) by presenting a check for \$10,000 to SC curator Jessy Randall. The gift was presented to enhance the college curriculum by acquiring significant books and documents that focus on women’s history and women’s contributions to society. You may visit the SC acquisitions blog to see photos and descriptions of the acquisitions that were made with our gift at: <http://sites.coloradocollege.edu/ccspecialcollections/2015/11/16/w-e-s-gift-of-10000-part-1/>

WES/Pillar Trips – Chairs, Sharon Rice and Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell

Former board members Sharon Rice and Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell continue to plan and lead wonderful WES/Pillar trips. On the “Tribal Trails” trip April 27 to May 5, 2015, Sharon and Cathy led 29 participants on visits to several Native American tribal lands and pueblos in New Mexico and Colorado, interacting with tribe members and learning about their culture. \$100 of each participant’s total trip fee was donated to the WES scholarship fund. The next WES/Pillar trip, “Coronado’s Footsteps: Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico” will depart from Tucson, Arizona on April 25, 2016, returning to Tucson on May 1 after exploring the history, culture, geology, flora and fauna of Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico. We are grateful to Sharon and Cathy for making these trips possible!

Van Briggie Cards – Chair, Barbara May

For the 2015-16 year, we made \$1,341 from Van Briggie products which benefit scholarships. This was from 309 cards, 167 bookmarks, and 32 tour books. All Van Briggie products are available at the Pottery Building (Glen and Uintah) during normal business hours, 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday.)

Membership Committee

Co-Chairs: Barbara Mitchell, Helen Knight
Members: Judith Casey, Karen Henderson, Meg Chojnacki

Membership statistics as of December 31, 2015

Regular Members.....	124
Life and Silver Special Members.....	96
Ex-officio and Honorary Members.....	9
Total	229

The committee processed a large mailing to members who had not been active since 2012 urging them to renew their membership or inform us they do not wish to remain active in WES.

The WES database was submitted for certification in August 2015 and January 2016, thus ensuring that labels generated for all mailings would be updated and current.

Candace Santa Maria provided regular updates to the WES database until her term expired in June 2015. Helen Knight took over the maintenance of the database.

The committee proposed a new membership structure which was approved by the board.

The committee continued to reply to pertinent email messages and to all WES voicemail messages.

Letters were mailed in November to members who had not paid dues or made contributions in 2015.

Tax acknowledgment letters were mailed in January 2016.

Nominating Committee

Chair: Judith Casey
Board Members: Diane Benninghoff, Beth Zautke, Meg Chojnacki
Members-at-Large: Shirley Wooley, Caroline Vulgamore

At the end of the 2015-16 academic year, the Board of Managers was comprised of 25 members. The Nominating Committee successfully recruited three new members for the Board: Crystal Bryant, Eileen Martin, and Judy DeGroot.

Slate of Officers to be approved at the WES Board Meeting on May 5, 2016

Co-Presidents: Ann Burek and Meg Chojnacki
1st Vice President: Nancy Baxter
2nd Vice President: Eileen Martin
Recording Secretary: *(vacant at time of printing)*
Corresponding Secretary: Elaine Derbenwick
Treasurer: Barbara Mitchell
Assistant Treasurer: Barbara May

Board members whose first term will expire in 2016 are: Ann Burek, Barbara May, Judith Casey, Sarah Healy, Rosalyn Knepell, Helen Knight. Sarah Healy is not returning to the Board but will become a member-at-large and continue as Chair of the Van Briggles Pottery Festival. All other members have agreed to serve a second term beginning with the 2016-2017 Academic year.

Board members whose second, and final, term expires at the end of 2015-16 are: Diane Benninghoff, Lana Coffman, Beth Zautke. We thank them for their service over many years and hope they will continue to be involved in WES.

The committee is speaking with potential new board members and encourages all members interested in service to WES in this capacity to contact Judith Casey.