

Board of Managers 2016 – 2017

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

The Woman’s Educational Society Scholars 2016 – 2017

Seniors, Class of 2017

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

Juniors, 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

Sophomores, 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

Freshmen, Class of 2020

Cinea Jenkins	Ft. Lupton, Colorado
Eva Parra	Tucson, Arizona
Valeria Peralta	Miami, Florida
Jessica Ramos	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Kristie Shirley	Lake Worth, Florida

**THE WOMAN’S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (WES)
 of Colorado College
 2016-2017**

Annual Report of the Presidents

**128th Annual Meeting
 April 24, 2017**

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, 2016

Regular members.....	113
Life and Silver Special members.....	90
Ex-officio and Honorary members.....	9
Total	212

Board of Managers accounts as of December 31, 2016

Operating Fund.....	\$7,789.34
Scholarships – Fundraising.....	\$35,132.55
Dorothy P. Bryson Special Student Assistance Fund.....	\$4,200.00
Mary G. Slocum Founders Grant Fund.....	\$3,000.00
Gifts to Colorado College Fund.....	\$14,600.00
Marianne Stoller Gift Fund.....	\$14,500.00

Market Value of the Endowment as of December 31, 2016

Composed of the WES Irrevocable Trust and the WES Revocable Trust with funds from Cook, Hinch, Campbell, General Fund, and The Anniversary Fund	\$4,012,201
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2016-2017 Scholarship funds allocated to 20 scholars.....\$146,000

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

- August 20, 2016 New Scholar Reception, Cornerstone
- September 2016 Fall *NewsFocus* mailing
- September 10, 2016 Van Briggie Pottery Festival
- September 12, 2016 Scholar Tea at Stewart House
- September 18-20,
2016 WES/PILLAR Tour: Colorado's Sites and Gems
- November 10, 2016 Fall Lunch & Program – Leah Witherow
Curator for Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum
Colorado's Three Governors in One Day
- December 5, 2016 Scholar Event: Cookie Exchange
- February 2017 Winter *NewsFocus* mailing
- February 22, 2017 Winter Lunch & Program
Colorado College Professor Brian Linkhart
The Life and Times of Tiny Owls
- April 6, 2017 Women of the West Luncheon
Andrea O'Reilly Herrera, Prof of Literature and
Director of Women's & Ethnic Studies, UCCS
The Landscape of the Dispossessed: The Art of
Rosario Castro-Marin
- April 24 2017 WES Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Please read the committee reports for more details.

Contact us at:

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

Scholarship Committee

Chair: Sharon L. Grady

Members: Elaine Derbenwick, Helen Knight, Crystal Bryant, Judy DeGroot, Meg Chojnacki (Ex-Officio), and Emily Dean Kim (Member-at-Large)

Following are some details of a productive year for the committee:

- Selection of and notification to five (5) new WES Scholars, as well as the recruitment and assignment of mentors, was the initial focus of committee efforts;
- Provided photos and biographical sketches for each scholar for the NewsFocus. Additional photos and narratives were provided to the NewsFocus following other activities involving the scholars;
- Planned, organized and hosted the August Meet and Greet activity to welcome the scholars, meet their parents, and introduce scholar mentors and WES Board members;
- WES Scholars' Tea held at the Stewart House in September. New scholars were introduced to their mentors and to the broader Colorado College community. Framed certificates and small mementos were also presented to them;
- All scholars were invited to attend the September Van Briggles Tour and Festival;
- Goodie bags were prepared and distributed to the scholars during each semester. Additionally, the December holiday Cookie Exchange was planned, executed and well attended by scholars and mentors;
- Encouraged WES Scholars to attend the Fall and Winter luncheon programs and the CC sponsored Annual Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon;
- Disseminated WES Special Grant Application information to the scholars each semester. Accepted applications, reviewed and selected grant recipients;
- Advised WES Scholars of the April WES Annual Meeting and Luncheon and encouraged their attendance. Notified graduating seniors of the luncheon presentation requirement, and assisted them with preparation for this activity.

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Ann Burek and Meg Chojnacki

Our year has been busy and productive. We welcomed the new scholars at a morning reception in August. With the help of President Dr. Jill Tiefenthaler, we introduced the five new scholars to the membership at the Scholars' Tea in September. At this time, the membership had an opportunity to interact with the new scholars, their mentors, and of course, the upperclass scholars. In October, a few of us attended the Colorado College Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon and again met with all of the scholars. Finally, all of us thoroughly enjoyed the Cookie Fest in December. What a wonderful way to start the holiday season.

Our luncheons include both members and scholars. In a very timely election week November presentation, Leah Davis Witherow, curator of History at the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, provided a delightful portrayal on Colorado politics in 1904. The topic Colorado's Three Governors in One Day was well received. On a remarkably spring like day in February, Dr. Brian Linkhart, Colorado College Professor of Biology, gave a wonderful talk on Flammulated Owls. Again, the luncheons give us a wonderful opportunity to interact with our scholars.

During the 2016 Homecoming Weekend, Colorado College held a lovely memorial service celebrating and honoring the life and work of Marianne Stoller, Professor Emerita of Anthropology. Our own Sharon Rice shared WES thoughts and memories of Dr. Stoller. Since Dr. Stoller left a generous monetary gift to WES, which has been augmented by several of her friends and supporters, we have decided to change the Honorary Stoller Scholar award to a financial award to be named and bestowed at graduation. Because of this change, there will be a transition period.

With Dr. Stoller in mind, the WES/PILLAR trips continue and thrive. In the fall of 2016, Historic and Scenic Gems of Colorado was a huge success. According to participants, everything was perfect including the weather and the peaches. Splendors of the Southwest Canyons is scheduled for September 15-22, 2017. This was one of Dr. Stoller's favorite destinations.

In addition to our foremost function of sponsoring our scholars, WES has focused on community outreach this year. Our annual Van Briggles Festival, which seems to grow each year, was held last September and is scheduled for next September. With our Peanut Briggles, cups, and magnets, we participated in the World Holiday Market at the Broadmoor Community Church in October. We donated to International Women's Day and had an information table at the event on March 4. Finally, we value our connection with The Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies and joined their program on April 6.

Our wonderful Board remains successful although the individual members change. People come and people go, but the function and purpose of WES continues to thrive.

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. For academic year 2017-18, the scholarship will increase from \$7,300 to \$7,600. This amount is 11.7% of Colorado College's cost of attendance. The total annual scholarship commitment for 20 students will be \$152,000.

Since the 1990s, John W. Bristol and Company has managed the WES endowment. As of December 31, 2016, it was valued at \$4,012,201. In February 2017, the committee and co-presidents met with representatives from JW Bristol to review the endowment investments.

In October 2016, the Finance Committee and the Scholarship Committee met with representatives of the Colorado College Financial Aid Office to discuss the WES scholarship and how it impacts our scholars. The meeting provided the Finance Committee additional information which will impact their decision on the amount of our future scholarships. The meeting provided the Scholarship Committee important information as they select future scholars.

The Assistant Treasurer (Barbara May) is responsible for attending Finance Committee meetings and maintaining hard copies of documents related to PILLAR/WES trips. These documents include:

- Trip Brochure
- Signed MOU - provided by PILLAR and Sharon Rice
- Participant List - provided by PILLAR
- List to be provided to Treasurer for tax letter purposes
- Trip Accounting - Provided by PILLAR within 3 months after trip
- NewsFocus follow-up trip article if available

We will again support five incoming freshmen and fifteen returning scholars for academic year 2017-2018. 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 contributions are greatly appreciated.

Publicity Committee

Chair: Crystal Bryant

Members: Fay McQueen, Ann Burek

Current *NewsFocus* Editor: Emily Dean Kim

Newsfocus

The winter and fall issues of the *NewsFocus* were published and very well received.

Van Briggle Festival September 10, 2016

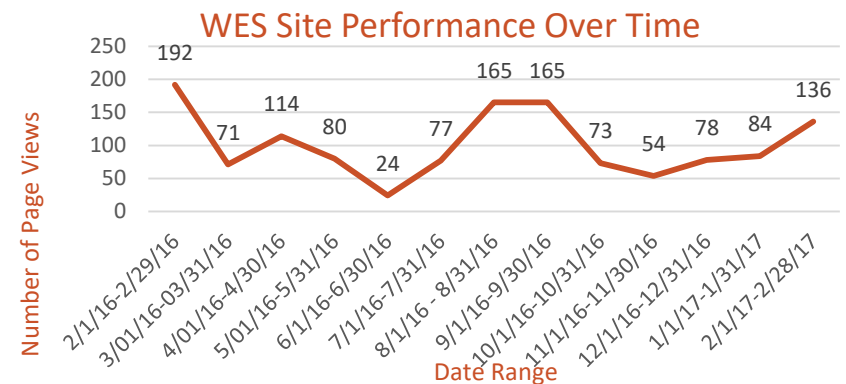
The VB publicity committee distributed publicity posters and bookmarks to antique stores, shops, and coffee shops around Denver and southern Colorado. Additionally, the committee procured article placement in the Colorado Springs Business Journal and Woodmen and Cheyenne Editions. Additional coverage included spots in the Mountain States Collector, Old North End Newsletter and on KMOF/KCMJ.

Social Media

All WES events have been covered and promoted in on the WES Facebook page. The number of "likes" on the Facebook page has grown from 45 to 53 since Sept. 2016.

WES Website

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. Recently a story about one of our scholar's, Kristie Shirley, was published on the website. The website continues to see a steady stream of visits, as seen below.



Program Committee

Chair: Eileen Martin

Board Members: Crystal Bryant, MacKenzie Mulligan-Buckmiller, Judy Casey, Sue Graham, Karen Henderson, Monique Michaud, Meg Chojnacki

Scholars Tea – September 12, 2016

The Scholars Tea was again held at the magnificent Stewart House. The new WES point of contact for our events, Alyson Alvarez of Colorado College, organized the tea, with comfortable seating arrayed throughout the mansion rooms and on the rear and side balconies. Approximately 50 members attended and welcomed the incoming and current scholars. Ann Burek made brief remarks about WES's work and introduced Colorado College President Jill Tiefenthaler, who gave an inspiring talk for the scholars and guests. The mentors each introduced their scholars, and the scholars provided some background about themselves and their study plans. It was a great kickoff of the academic year and a wonderful opportunity for the scholars to meet as a group and gather with WES members.

Fall Luncheon and Program – November 10, 2016

The Fall Luncheon and Program was held in Gaylord Hall in the Worner Center. The guest speaker was Leah Witherow, curator of the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, who spoke about "Colorado's Three Governors in One Day" in the contentious election of 1904. The program was interesting and timely, coming two days after the U.S. presidential election. Most of the scholars attended along with the approximately 45 guests.

Winter Luncheon and Program – February 22, 2017

The Winter Luncheon and Program was held in Gaylord Hall in the Worner Center. Meg Chojnacki arranged for Professor Brian Linkhart of Colorado College to discuss his work with the tiny flammulated owl. Former WES scholar Devon Lucero introduced Dr. Linkhart, mentioning her own fieldwork with the professor's team. Approximately 50 members, scholars and guests enjoyed the talk, which covered the owl's terrain, habits, migration and mating patterns, and habitat in the Ponderosa pine trees in both the U.S. and Mexico.

Women of the West Luncheon – April 6, 2017

Once again WES has partnered with the Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies to offer a joint Aficionados-WES luncheon. This year the guest speaker is Andrea O'Reilly Herrera, Professor of Literature and Director of Women's and Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. Her topic was "The Landscape of the Dispossessed: The Art of Rosario Castro-Marin," about the work of a Cuban exile who settled in the southwest.

WES Annual Meeting – April 24, 2017

The Annual Meeting is to be held this year at the Fine Arts Center. Senior scholars will discuss their Colorado College experiences and future plans. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am, with lunch served at noon, followed by the scholars' remarks.

Fundraising Committee

Chair: Faye McQueen

Board Members: Sheila McElroy, Ann Burek

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

Van Briggles Festival – Chair, Sarah Healy

2016 was the second year of the annual WES Van Briggles Pottery tour as a community festival. The Friends of Monument Valley Park and Manitou Springs Heritage Center joined The Horticulture Art Society, the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, and The Historic Preservation Alliance of Colorado Springs as festival partners. We are very excited that the Bemis School of Art will be co-sponsoring the 2017 Festival with us. The Colorado College/COS Fine Arts Center Alliance presents exciting possibilities for the future of the festival. Sadly, we lost Fred Wills, Van Briggles Master Potter in November. We were so honored to have Fred demonstrate throwing pots on the wheel one last time at the September Festival.

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

"Following in Coronado's Footsteps" from April 25 – May 1 proved to be another educational and memorable WES/PILLAR trip. Participants met Sharon and Cathy in Tucson and traveled to Bisbee and took a tour of the Queen Mine and Historic Museum. From there they journeyed to Nueva Casa Grandes Paquime Archeological site. They had dinner at the well-known archeologist Spencer McCullum Home. On the return trip they crossed the border at Douglas, journeyed to Tombstone, and toured the Karchner Caverns as well as the Amerind Museum. They spent time at Tumacacori and San Xavier del Bac Missions. Pillar and WES each received \$1,550 in donations from this trip.

The trip entitled "Gems of Colorado" took place in mid-September of 2016. Twenty-nine participants enjoyed this adventure. The trip included Leadville, Aspen, Paonia, Marble, Georgetown and four nights in Carbondale. Pillar and WES each received \$2,900 in donations from this trip.

In November, Cathy and Sharon took a pre-trip to Utah and Arizona to plan for the fall of 2017. That trip is entitled: "Splendors of the Southwest Canyons". This trip will include: Zion and Bryce National Parks; a half-day boat trip on Lake Powell; a tour of Glen Canyon Dam; tour of the Antelope Slot Canyons; and a two night stay at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. Gary Ladd will be our featured educator with his geological, astronomical and photographic knowledge and skills. We currently have a waiting list for this trip.

Van Briggles Cards – Chair, Sheila McElroy

For the 2016-17 year, we made \$337 from Van Briggles products. Cards, bookmarks, and books were available at the Van Briggles tour in September. All Van Briggles products are available at the Van Briggles 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, Judy DeGroot, Karen Henderson, Monique Michard, Meg Chojnacki

Membership statistics as of December 31, 2016

Regular members.....	113
Life and Silver Special members.....	90
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Total	212

The WES database was submitted for certification in August 2016 and January 2017, thus ensuring that labels generated for all mailings would be updated and current.

Helen Knight did an incredible job maintaining the database. She added a couple new tabs in order to provide better organization to the database.

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 2016. The committee also mailed a special letter to all former scholars in the database hoping to get them involved in WES.

Tax acknowledgment letters were mailed in January 2017.

Nominating Committee

Chair: Judith Casey
Board Members: Sue Graham, Roz Knepell, Barbara May, Meg Chojnacki
Members-at-Large: Diane Benninghoff, Sarah Healy, Caroline Vulgamore

At the end of the 2016-17 academic year, the Board of Managers was comprised of 17 members. The Nominating Committee successfully recruited three new members for the Board: Cindi Zenkert-Strange, Brittany Almeida, and Karen Rubin.

Slate of Officers to be approved at the WES Board Meeting on May 4, 2017

President: Crystal Bryant
1st Vice President: Karen Henderson
2nd Vice President: Eileen Martin
Recording Secretary: *(vacant at time of printing)*
Corresponding Secretary: Roz Knepell
Treasurer: Barbara Mitchell
Assistant Treasurer: Barbara May

Board members whose first term will expire in 2017 are Eileen Martin, Karen Henderson, and Monique Michaud.

Board members whose second, and final, term expires at the end of 2016-17 are Meg Chojnacki, Sue Graham, and Elaine Derbenwick.