

TRUSTEES OF MESA STATE COLLEGE

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

November 18-19, 2003

As corrected, March 12, 2004

Liff Auditorium

Mesa State College

NOVEMBER 18, 2003

CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board convened in open session at 8:40 a.m. Chair Elliott noted that the recording Secretary was not present, nor were any members of the public. Trustee Jim Wexels moved, and Trustee Carol Nesland seconded, that the board go into executive session pursuant to 24-6-402 (3)(b)(I), C.R.S. for the purpose of discussing employment issues relating to a presidential search. The motion passed unanimously and the Board recessed at 8:45 a.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lena Elliott called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Trustees Present

Student Trustee Garrett Branson; Trustee Lena Elliott; Trustee Jamie Hamilton, Trustee Tom Kaesemeyer; Trustee Steve Meyer; Trustee Charlie Monfort; Trustee Carol Nesland; Trustee Jane North; Faculty Trustee Gayla Jo Slauson, Trustee Jim Wexels

Trustees Excused

Trustee Luis Colon

The President's staff attended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2003 meeting. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS

Board Chair: Trustee Elliott reported on the dinner with the Higher Learning Commission/NCA team for accreditation; the meeting with the MSC Foundation Executive Committee; the Foundation dinner, alumni lunch, and Hall of Fame dinner attended by Trustees Meyer and Hamilton; and asked Trustee Wexels to report on the meeting with the legislators of the Joint Budget Committee.

Interim President: President Gingerich reported on the upcoming RMAC Division II playoff game with Central Oklahoma hosted by MSC; the Higher Learning Commission/NCA team's recommendation for re-accreditation; the cost of higher education; and Mesa's response to

Senator Andrews' letter to Colorado institutions of higher education requesting information on policies and procedures regarding academic freedom.

Discussion occurred on the response to Senator Andrews, the proposed bill to exempt institutions from the state purchasing system, the personnel information items attached to Dr. Gingerich's report and Mesa State's low tuition and fees compared to other institutions. The Board requested copies of the CCHE College Guide.

Faculty Trustee: Trustee Slauson reported on faculty pride in institution accomplishments, including the HLC/NCA re-accreditation, preparation for next semester's classes, and the stress caused by unknown budgets, insurance cost increase, unfilled faculty positions, and programs identified for discontinuance.

Student Trustee: Trustee Branson reported on the Activities Council conference in Portland, the Campus Residence Association Turkey Bowl residence hall flag football game, Club Advisory Board's requests for funds, ASG's scantron surplus offered to students, and athletics standings.

Faculty Senate: Senate President Dr. Russ Walker stated that he is looking forward to discussions on the future of the institution, including the presidential search process and faculty role in that process. He invited Board members to attend Faculty Senate meetings and announced that Chair Elliott would attend the next meeting. Dr. Walker encouraged the Board to incorporate a statement of philosophy in the Trustee Policy Manual. He expressed appreciation to the Board for its willingness to consider a salary increase and was assured by Chair Elliott of the Board's commitment to faculty and to the institution.

BOCES: No report. BOCES meets November 19, 2003.

A change in schedule was announced to indicate that an executive session would be convened after the Trustee Policy Manual discussion.

RECESS TO LUNCH

Chair Elliott recessed for lunch at 12:00 noon and reconvened in open session at 1:02 p.m.

ACTION ITEM

Trustee Policy Manual

Trustees Nesland and Slauson provided background on input, revisions and distribution of the Trustee Policy Manual draft. Discussion occurred on DCP language, the presidential search, and shared governance statements. It was noted that a provision for amending the Manual is located in Article 4 and that language regarding the Board position of Faculty Trustee was changed to include "tenured" as required criteria for the position. Trustees Nesland and Slauson were thanked for their work on the Trustee Policy Manual.

It was moved and seconded that the document be accepted as presented and as modified. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved and seconded that the Board convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a property issue in accordance with 24-6-402(3)(a)(I), C.R.S. The motion passed and the Board recessed at 1:20 p.m.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

Chair Elliott reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Academic Planning Report

Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Duane Hrcir, provided information on CCHE requirements for the Academic Planning Report and explained the intent of its six goals. Discussion was held on the program approval process and its associated time frame.

It was moved and seconded to authorize the forwarding of the report to CCHE. The motion passed.

Diversity Plan and Report

Dr. Hrcir explained the CCHE policy requirements for reporting activities concerning diversity and provided background information on the Office of Civil Rights' report on its visit to the community. Noting that multiculturalism is a core value of the institution, Dr. Hrcir elaborated on efforts conducted in partnership with community groups to enroll and recruit underrepresented groups. Discussion occurred regarding areas targeted for recruiting and current recruiting strategies. Dr. Hrcir suggested that the Recruitment Action Plan be added to the agenda for a future meeting.

It was moved and seconded that the Trustees authorize the institution to forward to CCHE the 2004 Diversity Plan and the 2003 Diversity Report. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Chair Elliott announced a change in Wednesday's schedule, noting that an executive session would be convened to finish the presidential search discussion and open session would convene at 9:30.

ADJOURNED at 3:35 p.m. until 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 19.

NOVEMBER 19, 2003

CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board convened in open session at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and to receive a report from Jake Zambrano on the upcoming legislative session. Chair Elliott noted that the recording Secretary was not present. Trustee Nesland moved, and Trustee Wexels seconded, that the Board go into executive session pursuant to 24-6-402 (3)(b)(I) C.R.S., for the purpose of discussing

employment issues relating to a presidential search. The motion passed unanimously and the Board recessed at 8:00 a.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elliott called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Trustees Present

Student Trustee Garrett Branson; Trustee Lena Elliott; Trustee Jamie Hamilton, Trustee Tom Kaesemeyer; Trustee Steve Meyer; Trustee Carol Nesland; Trustee Jane North; Faculty Trustee Gayla Jo Slauson; Trustee Jim Wexels

Trustees Excused

Trustee Charlie Monfort; Trustee Luis Colon

The President's staff attended.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Academic Program Priority Process

Vice President Hrnrcir provided information on background, purposes, and the procedures established by an ad hoc committee for engaging in a program prioritization process as required by the Academic Master Plan and CCHE reporting criteria. Dr. Hrnrcir also explained the next steps in the process. Issues were raised and discussion held regarding the process and its complexities. Dr. Hrnrcir proposed that agenda items regarding the decisions on programs be brought before the Board as they are approved by the Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate, rather than waiting until June to address them all at once. Trustee Meyer summarized that the process needs to be ongoing, that it may need to be refined, and that programs at the bottom may not necessarily be eliminated but rather reviewed. Dr. Hrnrcir committed to addressing some of the issues with faculty, the faculty trustee and Faculty Senate, and to providing a report in December.

ACTION ITEM

B.A. in Fine & Performing Arts/Theatre Concentration/Dance Option

Dr. Hrnrcir presented the agenda item to the Board, provided history and approval requirements, and introduced Dr. Janine Rider, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, who, along with two faculty members, spoke in support of adding the dance option. Discussion included verification of demonstrable and defensible demand, fundraising potential, comparison with the process for a minor in International Studies, and ability to implement initially without additional funds or faculty.

It was moved and seconded to approve the dance option as presented. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

FY04 1st Quarter Financial Report

Mark Achen made a presentation and answered questions, with input from Controller Cackler and Director Sutton, on the 1st quarter financial report, balance sheets, and income statements.

FY04 Budget

Budget options 1 and 2 were explained and discussed.

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve FY04 budget option #2 reflecting a 2% salary increase effective January 1, 2004, that a budgeted line item for a board reserve be added, and that the income statement be adjusted to reflect the change. After clarification and discussion, the motion passed. Staff was thanked for their work

Supplemental Capital Construction Request

Assistant Vice President Erik van de Boogaard explained the required process for approval of the supplemental capital construction request for the Pinon and Mary Rait residence hall renovations. Discussion occurred on financing.

It was moved and seconded to approve the supplemental capital construction request. The motion passed.

Chair Elliott requested, on behalf of the Board, that an update be provided on properties west of main campus: what is owned by MSC, what the Foundation owns, and use of the property.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Elliott noted that Trustee Luis Colon had announced his intention to resign from the Board.

Presidential Recruitment Plan

Chair Elliott read the Board's plan for recruitment of a president for Mesa State College. The Board will act as the search committee and the search will be conducted in two Phases. Phase I will be conducted as an internal/external national search beginning in December. If the Board does not choose a candidate from those who present themselves in Phase I, the Board may implement Phase II and may seek the assistance of a national search organization. The search will be conducted in accordance with the Trustee Policy Manual and the Board chair will be the sole spokesperson. A timeline for Phase I was shared and the target for a final selection is April.

It was moved and seconded to formally adopt the recruitment plan. The motion passed.

Senator Andrews' Letter

After review of a draft response from President Gingerich to Senator Andrews on his letter regarding the protection of academic freedom, Trustee Kaesemeyer read a proposed Board response that included support of President Gingerich's letter. Input on both letters was solicited, and the Board as a group agreed that the letters should be sent after a final review and campus circulation.

Property Issues

Discussion occurred on the status of eleven houses currently owned by either the Foundation or the College, and on CCHE approval for the properties to be razed. Assistant Vice President van de Boogaard provided background and explained the impact and timing of such action. A report on proposals, matching funds, and previous agreements is pending with an agenda item targeted for the next Board meeting.

Financial Aid Briefing

Interim Director Curt Martin made a presentation on financial aid types, acquirement, disbursement, federal regulations, default rates, how students use their aid, and financial aid's relation to Mesa's recruitment strategy. Trustee Kaesemeyer requested a copy of the report.

ADJOURN

It was moved, seconded, and passed that the meeting adjourn at 11:25 a.m.