

TRUSTEES OF MESA STATE COLLEGE

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

April 22, 2004
Liff Auditorium
Mesa State College

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elliott called the regular meeting to order 9:05a.m.

Trustees Present

Trustees Hamilton, Kaesemeyer, Meyer, Monfort, Nesland, North, Wexels, Faculty Trustee Slauson, and Chair Elliott

Trustees Excused

Trustee Colon

Also in attendance was ASG Representative Joe Mulcahy

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

President Foster reported Mesa State is the only institution that has achieved a needed change in appropriated monies in the Long Bill. If the governor vetoes the Long Bill the Board will have the opportunity to recommend a tuition increase. Any increase will need the approval of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education. The College Opportunity Bill is up for a vote soon and if passed, will in all likelihood allow Mesa State to have enterprise status.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Nesland moved the minutes of March 24 be approved. Motion was seconded by Trustee Wexels and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS

President: President Foster shared that the Board met yesterday with college and community groups to discuss Mesa State's mission and vision. Vice President Futhey will organize a working committee composed of members of the Board, ASG and Mesa State leadership that will identify areas, such as student fees and tuition, to explore in depth during the next six months.

Faculty Trustee: Trustee Slauson cited more than 50% of public Higher Ed institutions are offering courses and/or complete degree programs on-line. On-line course delivery is one way Mesa State can fulfill its regional provider mission. Realizing that on-line courses could be the

only contact a student might have with Mesa State, it is imperative that MSC put out a quality product. IT support such as desk support; software maintenance; and hardware repair, maintenance and updating will need to be addressed. Transition for faculty will involve taking the principles of good teaching and applying them to the Internet. Implementing time for increased student interaction, giving prompt feedback, incorporating active learning techniques, dealing with cheating and establishing testing centers are a few of the issues that will need to be addressed. This will require institutional resources and commitment.

ASG Student Representative: Student Representative Mulchay welcomed his successor, Charles Dukes and reported this year's student elections had an unprecedented turnout of nearly 1200 students. He and ASG President Hensel have been traveling to Denver to testify in front of the House Ed Committee on behalf of the student fee bill.

ASG President: ASG President Jenn Hensel summarized the ASG election count on the main campus as having several positions with split votes. The swing votes came from UTEC, Montrose and Mesa at Night. ASG candidates made a concerted effort to go to the extended campuses. The students at UTEC and Montrose expressed their appreciation.

President Hensel invited the Board of Trustees to an FAC event Friday, April 30. ASG will present awards to outstanding faculty members, an award to Congressman Scott McInnis for his dedicated leadership in this district, and will unveil several new scholarships.

Trustee Nesland thanked President Hensel on behalf of the Board for her dedicated and passionate representation of the student body of Mesa State during her year as ASG president.

Faculty Senate President: Faculty Senate President Russ Walker gave an update on the progress of the handbook revision effort. There was discussion on the process so far and what the Board and President Foster would like to see. Chair Elliott asked to have the draft next week.

Senate President Walker informed the Board that Mesa's Undergraduate Research Symposium is taking place later this week. This annual event showcases the students' research projects they've been working on with faculty. The projects reflect the vitality of the faculty's efforts to enhance students' education beyond the classroom. Trustee Kaesemeyer expressed that the Board is very interested in seeing student presentations and projects whenever possible.

Trustee Chair: Chair Elliott reported a press conference with Congressman Scott McInnis was held last Monday on campus. Congressman McInnis presented Mesa State with a grant for teacher education in rural areas. This is the second year of a 3-year plan for getting monies for Teacher Education. Mesa State will use this grant money to expand teacher preparation in areas on the Western Slope that are within the scope of Mesa State's Regional Education Provider Service vision.

PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

President Foster briefed the Board on the tenure promotions summarized in the agenda packet. There was a short discussion on tenure requirements and procedures.

Trustee Nesland moved that the Board of Trustees approve the candidate applications for tenure. The motion was seconded by Trustee Meyer and passed unanimously.

President Foster suggested the board approve as a whole the new appointments, the Emeritus status and Sabbatical requests.

Trustee Wexels moved that the new appointments, the Emeritus status and Sabbatical Leave requests be granted as proposed. The motion was seconded by Trustee Meyer and passed unanimously.

10:05a.m. Chair Elliott announced a break.

10:20a.m. Session was reconvened.

BUDGET REPORT

Whitney Sutton presented a FY05 Update. She and President Foster have been corresponding with the JBC on what they felt were inaccurate base figures for Mesa State's tuition estimates. They succeeded in getting it changed and the Long Bill now includes Mesa State's FY04 enrollment increases. Discussion continued on spending authority, consequences on Financial Aid, TABOR, enterprise limitations, tuition increase procedures, and different tuition pricing among Colorado institutions. Sutton concluded with the fixed and mandated general fund costs that Mesa State is anticipating.

TUITION REPORT

Sutton compared two tuition schedule options; a straight per credit hour and a credit hour table with a full-time range. She showed comparisons of tuition schedules of Mesa State's peer institutions. Discussion included credit ranges; a credit model that prices by course; different tuition prices for individual schools within an institution; and how student fees factor into this.

STUDENT FEES

Sutton presented a report that outlined administrative fees, course specific fees, and student activity fees most of which fall under TABOR. President Foster gave a brief description on what fees would not fall under TABOR. Discussion then turned to the number of different charges Mesa State has currently; how this can be a source of some frustration for students and a time consuming effort for administrative staff. Sutton suggested the Board consider guiding the institution toward reducing the number of different fees, charging the same fee for similar courses, and possibly transferring some of the fees into the tuition increase.

FACILITIES BUDGET OVERVIEW

Erik van de Boogaard detailed his costs, some of which are out of his direct control. He compared Mesa State's per foot expenditures on custodial and maintenance to BOMA (Building Operators and Manager Association) and IFMA (International Facilities Manager Association) standard rates; both of which are higher. He described the situation of our increasing deferred maintenance amount; the level of cleanliness we achieve because of a reduced staff; his analysis of recharge for labor across the campus; and how his department has become reactionary rather than preventative in our maintenance and equipment purchases.

FY05 FINANCIALS

Chair Elliott pointed out the FY05 Financial reports are in the agenda packet. There were no questions concerning them at this time.

ADJOURN

At 12:00 p.m. Trustee Monfort moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee North and passed unanimously.

Trustees were directed to the Elam room for lunch.