

TRUSTEES OF COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
1100 North Ave, Grand Junction, CO
Dominguez Hall, Gallegos Board Room
August 18th and 19th, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

In person: Chair Griffin, Trustee Lentz, Trustee Iwaniczko MacLeod, Trustee Davis, Trustee Dukes, Trustee Fry, Trustee Reiff, Faculty Trustee Casey, and Student Trustee Aaron Reed.

Trustee Ramos attended virtually on Thursday, August 18th and in person on Friday, August 19th.

Trustee Buck and Trustee Foster joined in person on Friday, August 19th.

Trustee Sanchez attended virtually on Friday, August 19th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Lentz moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 20, 2022. Trustee Iwaniczko MacLeod seconded the motion for approval. Motion passed unanimously.

There were no public comments.

REPORTS

CHAIR: Chair Griffin welcomed everyone back to the new school year. She welcomed Evan Piper as the new student trustee and expressed excitement to work with him. She shared a couple of statewide updates including that she had a recent check in meeting with Dr. Paccione who has been meeting with each Board chair as well as that she and President Marshall had visited with Commissioner Scott and Commissioner Sarah Kendall Hughes regarding the Commissions strategic planning process. She expressed excitement for the important strategic planning work that Colorado Mesa University is doing and thanked the Board in advance for their engagement in the process.

PRESIDENT: President Marshall introduced **Human Scale University Champion Award for August 2022**, which was presented to Jeremy Smith, Senior Graphic Designer for his numerous contributions to Colorado Mesa University.

Following the adoption of the resolution, President Marshall continued his report by welcoming everyone back to campus for the fall semester and sharing about the welcome back traditions including the campus BBQ, employee introductions and visit by Dr. Angie Paccione for move-in day. Additionally, he summarized activity that occurred over the summer preparing for fall semester. Additionally, the team has been working to get ahead of challenges and to prepare for the strategic planning work that will occur this year.

FACULTY TRUSTEE: Dr. Tim Casey, welcomed everyone back to campus. He reported that a large focus of the faculty at this time is the work being done for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visit that is coming up next fall. Many faculty and staff are serving on committees to put together the comprehensive report ahead of the HLC visit. Dr. Casey commented it is great to be doing the HLC work alongside the strategic planning process. He shared the importance of work that occurs over the summer including research, rest, and focus on other areas of faculty contribution to the university outside of the classroom. He mentioned faculty who have left CMU for various reasons from retirement to moving on to new positions outside the organization. Lastly, he shared the importance of the Vice President for Academic Affairs role and the energy that Dr. Hendricks has brought to the faculty as she has joined the Leadership Team.

STUDENT TRUSTEE: Evan Piper introduced himself and shared his excitement to work with and learn from the Board. He shared about the excitement students have for the upcoming semester and highlighted events that have occurred over the summer and as the students return. He reported that Student Life and Residence Life recently conducted student training to equip student leaders. He shared about the Bucket List challenge and goals for increasing student engagement. Additionally, he shared that student government will be working on the biennial budget process for allocating student fees. In closing, he shared student stories highlighting students who have found their home and belonging at CMU and the impact the CMU community has had on their individual lives.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Iwaniczko MacLeod moved to the consent agenda. Trustee Dukes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Personnel – April 2022
2. Designated Open Meeting posting
3. Tenure Approval

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

TREASURER’S REPORT: Michelle Quinn, Vice President for Finance and Administration presented the Treasurer’s Report.

DASHBOARD: Michelle, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, presented the dashboard and cashflow statement through June 30, 2022.

GEO EXCHANGE: Kent Marsh, Vice President of Capital Planning, shared a presentation about the Geo Exchange system at Colorado Mesa University highlighting that the majority of main campus is heated and cooled via Geo Exchange making it one of the largest systems in North America and resulting in reduction in utility costs of around \$1.5 million dollars annually. He also highlighted increased interest in the system by outside organizations and an opportunity to be a leader in this innovative space.

HOUSING & ECONOMIC UPDATE / RESIDENCE HALL RECOMMENDATION: Derek Wagner, Vice President of External Affairs gave a presentation related to the current housing and economic conditions in the Grand Valley. Jody Diers, Vice President for Student Services shared historical on campus housing information including inventory, occupancy, revenue trends.

Recessed for lunch and the Welcome Back BBQ. The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

President Marshall invited the students in his Freshman Year Initiative class to introduce themselves to the Board.

LEADERSHIP INTRODUCTIONS:

President Marshall introduced new Leadership Team members who joined the executive team over the summer of 2022. This included,

Michelle Quinn, Vice President of Finance and Administration

Dr. Cher Hendricks, Vice President of Academic Affairs

David Ludlam, Vice President of Communications

Dr. Kim Miller, Athletic Director

HOUSING & ECONOMIC UPDATE / RESIDENCE HALL RECOMMENDATION CONTINUED

CONVERSATION: The presentation ended with a recommendation for the Board to consider adding an additional residence hall building for immediate action – to open August 2023.

MPAC UPDATE / CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: Kent Marsh, Vice President of Capital Planning, discussed Capital Development projects and the prioritization process for projects. Additionally, he gave an update on the Moss Performing Arts Center project to replace Robinson Theater.

DEBT FINANCING UPDATE:

Michelle Quinn, Vice President for Finance and Administration, gave an update on university debt service, a market update and previewed looking ahead into 2024 given the current projects being considered that may require additional debt service.

MASTERS IN SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM UPDATE:

Dr. Cher Hendricks, Vice President for Academic Affairs, shared that the Masters in Social Work program was on the Institutional Actions Committee agenda for approval in July and the committee did not make it through their agenda at the July meeting so they did not review and approve our program. Colorado Mesa University has moved forward with admitting students into coursework while we await program approval.

Recessed until Friday morning.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKING SESSION:

Trustees unanimously and enthusiastically affirmed faculty, staff and student preferences for returning to first principal values for the basis for strategic planning. A comprehensive conversation included each trustee offering thoughts and insights on how to proceed with the Forming the Future process and each trustee individually communicating that the institution is moving in the direction. Trustees offered a range of process outcomes that generally mirrored administrations existing direction and concepts.

Recessed for lunch. The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m. following lunch with the Strategic Planning Committee for the Forming the Future Initiative.

STATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION UPDATE:

Dr. Angie Paccione, Executive Director of Colorado Department of Higher Education introduced her colleagues from the Colorado Department of Higher Education that accompanied her to campus: Ben Boggs, Deputy Executive Director & Chief of Staff, as well as Dr. Roberto Montoya, Chief Educational Equity Officer. Dr. Paccione gave an update on the State of Higher Education in Colorado.

LEARN FOR LESS & TECHNICAL PROGRAM UPDATE:

Brigitte Sundermann, Vice President for Community College Affairs, briefed the Board on status of technical programs at Western Colorado Community College including the growth of CTE credit hours and degrees and certificates awarded. She previewed an updated master plan for the campus and discussed the challenges and opportunities for the community college.

David Ludlam, Vice President for Communications, introduced Katlin Birdsall, Assistant Director of Marketing and shared about a new effort following the Learn for Less Initiative announcement to evaluate the branding and messaging related to Western Colorado Community College and that the Communications department will be conducting market research to present to the Board at a future meeting.

CMU FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Robin Brown, Vice President of Development and CEO of the CMU Foundation, gave an update on the Colorado Mesa University Foundation recapping the 2021-2022 year. She shared goals that the Foundation has set as well as highlights from the current year to date. She spoke of three specific initiatives: Setting the Stage, Funding Maverick Champions, and the Mesa Scholarship Initiative.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to bring before the Board.

Trustee Ramos motioned the meeting be adjourned. Trustee Dukes seconded.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Griffin adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.