

TRUSTEES OF COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Virtual Meeting
October 16, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Trustee Anilionis, Brough, Davis, Griffin, Lentz, Iwaniczko-MacLeod, Motter, Quimby, Ramos, Sanchez, Chair Reed, Faculty Trustee Owen-Ott and Student Trustee Cordova were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Lentz moved to approve the minutes of the August 13 & 14, 2020 meeting of the Trustees. Trustee Sanchez seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Sanchez moved to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2020 special meeting of the Trustees. Trustee Motter seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Anilionis moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2020 special meeting of the Trustees. Trustee Quimby seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

CHAIR: Chair Reed offered his appreciation to everyone for the work they are doing to keep the university open during this pandemic.

PRESIDENT: President Foster commented on it being October and the campus is still open and mentioned his gratitude to many for the collaboration in making it work. He spoke about concerns on mental health and the impact the shutdown has had on first gen students and the long-range impacts on education. He mentioned the Opportunity Scholarships provided by the City of Grand Junction with Council members who have been very supportive. Center for Reflection is in process. He spoke about the Turning the Corner committee which is trying to make a difference in the community as well as the work with the Post Academy in regards to curriculum and scholarships and encouraging students to get involved in criminal justice. He mentioned the Montrose campus Director retired and we are covering from here until we can hire. Working with School District 51 to improve the career and college advisors' program. Governor Polis was on campus and was complimentary of the work being done here to stay open safely. Working with Albertsons on contract. He mentioned the funding formula and working with the Department of Higher Education in light of the results of the Hanover study. He was asked to participate on the Law Enforcement Steering curriculum committee.

FACULTY TRUSTEE: Susanne Owens-Ott reported that faculty is excited to still be on campus. She was appointed to State Board of Accountancy by the Governor. She mentioned the four responsibilities of faculty are teaching, scholarship, advising and service and spoke on advising. She mentioned how advisors are appointed and what is included in advising. Some examples were writing letters, resumes, counseling students on their classes, following up on early alerts regarding grades. Primarily advising is to be a resource for a diverse population of students with varying needs.

STUDENT TRUSTEE: Jacqueline Cordova was elected Student Trustee early in the school year because elections were cancelled during the spring semester. She commented that this was a “learning as she goes” experience. She spoke about how students are adapting to these new circumstances. She was part of a conference call with Government Polis discussing covid19 and student responsibility. She mentioned the efforts to continue events that follow covid19 guidelines and keep students together in a safe environment including movie nights and sports. She talked about mental health and helping one another. She spoke about the new Maverick series which highlights select students and their journey to CMU. She introduced Angel Bautista, ASG President, who spoke about the biannual year process.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Personnel Report

Trustee Iwaniczko-MacLeod moved to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Quimby seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

TREASURER’S REPORT: Trustee Quimby presented the treasurer’s report.

FOUNDATION UPDATE PRESENTATION: Liz Meyer, Vice President of Development, reviewed the last ten years of Foundation activity, Foundation activities in FY19-20 and the goals for FY 20-21.

DASHBOARD: Laura Glatt, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, presented the dashboard.

Chair Reed call for a short recess at 11:38 a.m. The board reconvened at 11:45 a.m.

ACCREDITATION REPORT: Kurt Haas, Vice President of Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Morgan Bridge, Assistant Vice President of Assessment and Accreditation, who presented a review of the role of accreditation in the University.

Chair Reed called for a lunch break at 11:53 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:44 p.m.

INCENTIVE FOR CLASSIFIED STAFF: Laura Glatt, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, reviewed with the Trustees the University’s perspective on an incentive award for classified staff.

Trustee Davis moved that the Trustees approve a one-time incentive award to all classified staff who received successful ratings on their 2019-2020 annual performance review; and, in recognition of extra efforts and dedication during the pandemic. Trustee Anilionis seconded. Motion passed unanimously. (Note: Trustee Griffin had stepped out of the room prior to the discussion and vote.)

INVESTMENT POLICY SUSPENSION/MOVEMENT OF INVESTMENTS: Laura Glatt, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, reviewed with the Trustees the recommendation of the Investment Committee to set aside the Investment Policy during the election cycle.

Trustee Quimby moved that the Trustees approve up to 90 day suspension of the Board Investment Policy (IPS); direct Commerce, CMU's Investment Advisor to move up to \$8.595M corpus to a cash or near cash investment position prior to the November 3rd election; authorize the CMU Administration, in coordination with the Investment Advisory Committee, to provide direction to Commerce concerning the strategy to liquidate assets between equity and bond funds; with a return to the IPS statement related strategy within 90 days of liquidation. Trustee Brough seconded. The motion passed with nine in favor, one opposed. (Note: Trustee Griffin had stepped out of the room prior to the discussion and vote.)

20-21 BUDGET UPDATE: Whitney Sutton, Director of Budget/Food Service Programs, presented the budget update.

SABBATICAL REPORTS: Kurt Haas, Vice President of Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. William Wright, Professor of English, and Dr. Paul Hampton, Associate Professor of Biology and Physiology. Each presented the work from their sabbaticals.

DEGREE ANALYTICS PRESENTATION: Jeremy Brown, Vice President of Information Technology, presented information on measuring student engagement with wireless data with attention to three areas: student success, facility usage, and covid-19 response.

HOTEL MAVERICK UPDATE: Derek Wagner, Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs, introduced Gareth Brown, Director of Operations for Charlestowne Hotels. They provided a review of the year to date operations, market update and operations.

FY 21-22 HIGH LEVEL BUDGET: Whitney Sutton, Director of Budget/Food Service Programs, presented a high-level review of the FY 21-22 Budget forecast.

CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE: John Marshall, Vice President of Student Services, and Amy Bronson, Physician Assistant Program Director/Assistant Professor. Acting as Co-Directors of the Safe Together task force presented an update on the efforts to keep the campus open and safe.

Chair Reed adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.